



COUNTY BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON

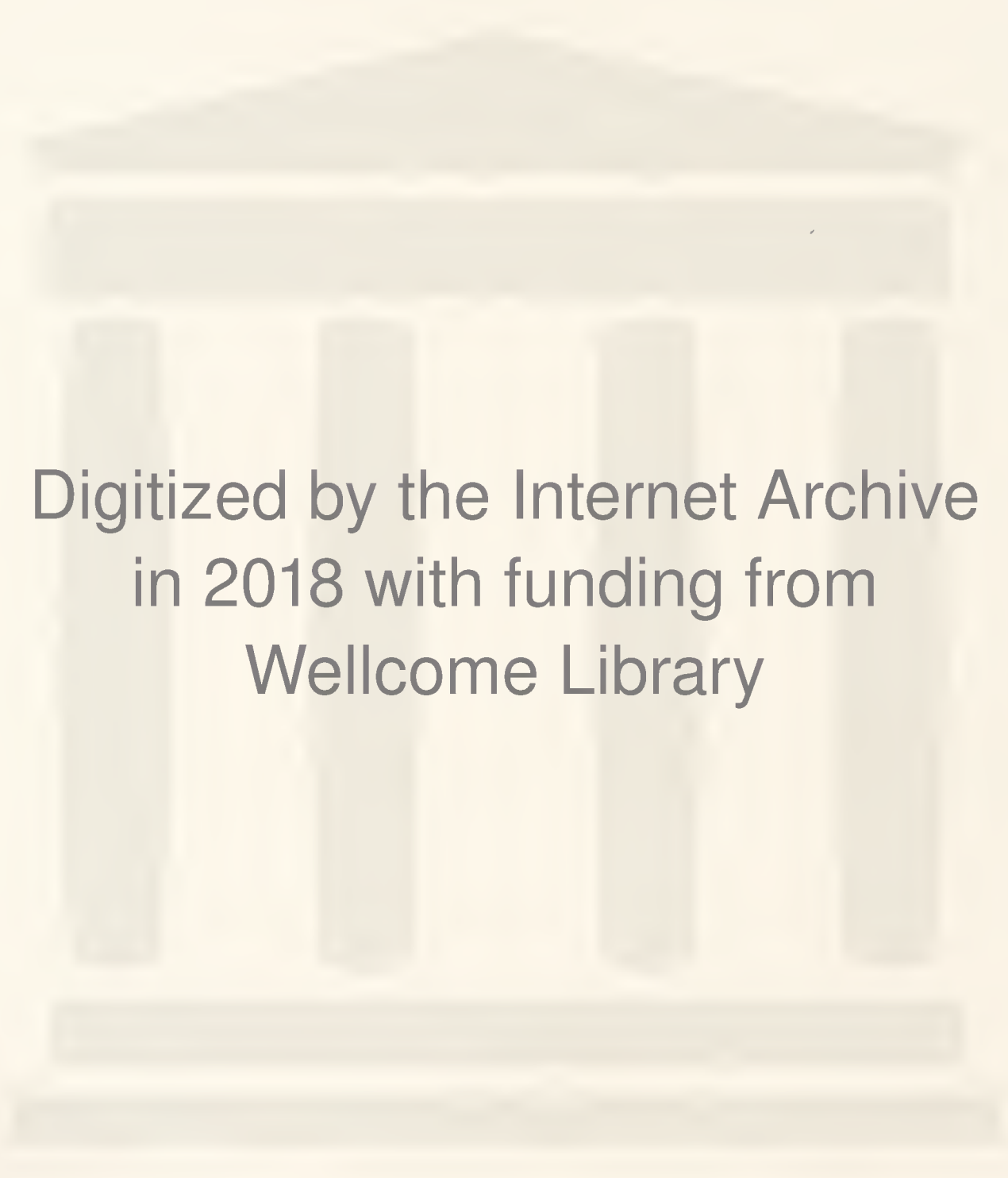
REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1943

By **STEPHEN ROWLAND, M.D.Edin., D.P.H.Camb.,**
Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer, and
Chief Tuberculosis Officer.



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INTRODUCTORY LETTER

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the County Borough of Northampton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1943, which for statistical purposes embraces a period of fifty-two weeks ended 1st January, 1944. This is the seventieth report of the series and is prepared according to Ministry of Health Circular 10/44 dated 15th February, 1944. Following previous instructions, the report is not so complete as it might have been; matters worthy of further discussion have been curtailed.

The birth-rate of 17·9 per thousand of the estimated civilian population was the highest recorded in the Borough since 1921 and exceeded that for England and Wales (16·5) for the first time since 1895. (See page 10).

The death-rate of 13·1 also exceeded that for England and Wales (12·1), but it was lower than the figure (14·2) for the 126 great towns including Northampton. (See page 10).

The infantile death-rate of 39·2 was the lowest ever recorded in Northampton, where we have had a consistently low rate going back many years, and compares with 49 for England and Wales and 58 for the great towns. (See pages 34 and 52).

The "zymotic death-rate" of 0·06 was equal to the remarkably low figures of 1936 and 1942. (See page 27).

The number of maternal deaths was six, giving a rate of 3·30 per thousand total births registered, compared with 2·29 for England and Wales. This is the second year in succession when the local rate has exceeded that for England and Wales. (See pages 35 and 58).

The death-rate from tuberculosis, including both forms, of 0·65 compared very favourably with 0·67 for England and Wales and is only a quarter of what it was for 1918, the last year of the First World War. (See pages 32 and 39).

Referring to the common notifiable diseases, we find there was a considerable fall in the number of notifications of diphtheria, with rises in scarlet fever, pneumonia, and whooping cough. One of the diseases which gave rise to some anxiety during the last war, viz: —cerebro-spinal meningitis, has been very rare during the past two years. (See Section VI. on pages 27 to 34).

The purity of the water, as shewn by bacteriological examination, remained of a high standard. (See page 16).

The difficulty of getting repairs to property executed gives ground for serious thought in view of the call there is, and will be, for some years for any kind of house property.

Note may be taken of the remarks on Northampton's milk supply on page 26.

Considering we are nearing the end of the fifth year of war, I think it may be conceded that the sanitary circumstances of Northampton are satisfactory and in spite of all war conditions the inhabitants of the Borough are as healthy as ever.

I have to record that Mr. C. H. Williams, who had been an ambulance and disinfecting officer in the Department for forty-seven years, retired on 26th February, 1943. Mr. Williams saw public health work in Northampton grow from a small beginning to its present scope. There can be few men who have had such a wide experience and I hope he will live long to enjoy his retirement.

I regret to say that one of my junior clerks, Mr. S. J. Dodd, lost his life in the service of his country in February, 1944.

Again I wish to thank all members of my staff for their assistance and loyalty without which such satisfactory results could not have been attained.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Stephen Rowland

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GUILDHALL, NORTHAMPTON.
MAY, 1944.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<i>Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, and Chief Tuberculosis Officer</i>		STEPHEN ROWLAND, M.D. Edin., D.P.H. Camb.
<i>Tuberculosis Officer</i>		NORMAN B. LAUGHTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare</i>		MRS. M. MARTIN WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B. ⌘
<i>Sanitary Inspectors</i>	..	W. J. BARKER*† (Chief Inspector and Rat Officer) B. KNOWLES*† (also Inspector of Common Lodging Houses) T. L. BOAST*† S. A. TENCH* W. L. MONKS*† (also Inspector of Canal Boats) M. T. PARRY*† (Meat and Food Inspector) C. RHODES*†
<i>Health Visitors</i>	..	MISS S. M. WEEKS† ¶ (Superintendent) MRS. F. H. SMITH† § MISS F. M. V. BLYTHE BROWN† MISS R. M. BRADY† ¶ MISS A. E. NORGATE† ¶ MISS J. H. WOTHERSPOON† ¶ MISS E. HOWARD† §¶ MRS. J. H. ARMITAGE† ⌘
<i>Tuberculosis Nurse</i>	..	MISS L. REESE
<i>Almoner</i>		MISS J. ADAM (Tuberculosis Dispensary)
<i>Matrons</i>		MISS M. E. NORMAN § (Harborough Road Infectious Diseases Hospital) MISS K. B. STONE § (Welford Road Tuberculosis Hospital)
<i>Clerks</i>		A. F. KNIGHT (Chief Clerk) S. J. KNIGHT (Tuberculosis Dispensary) H. T. BOSWELL MISS D. E. ADNITT (Infant Welfare Centre) L. BLAKE ⌘ A. N. WRIGHT ⌘ J. CHAPMAN ⌘ W. F. EALES ⌘ O. H. PRICE ⌘ MISS B. HOLMES ⌘ (Infant Welfare Centre) MRS. E. TAUSSIG (Tuberculosis Dispensary)
<i>Removal and Disinfecting Staff</i>		A. W. BLASON R. G. A. BRITTEN W. G. SMITH
<i>Rat-catcher</i>		W. E. J. DUNKLEY

All the above are whole-time Officers. School Medical Staff is not included.

*Holds Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

†Holds Certificate for Inspecting Meat and Other Foods.

‡Holds Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

||General Trained Nurse.

§Fever Trained Nurse.

¶Holds Health Visitor's Certificate.

⌘Temporary Appointment.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

Latitude.....	52° 14' North	Longitude.....	0° 54' West
Height of Guildhall above general mean sea level (in feet)	252		
Area of Borough (in acres)	6,201		
Population :—			
Census 1931 (before extension)	92,341		
Census 1931 (including area added 1st April, 1932)	96,546		
Registrar-General's Estimated Civilian Population for 1943	98,150		
Number of Inhabited Houses :—			
Census 1931	23,141		
According to Rate Books (31st December, 1943)	29,400		
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (Census 1931) ...	24,966		
Rateable Value (31st December, 1943)	£801,374		
Yield of One Penny Rate (31st December, 1943)	£3,200		

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1943

		TOTAL.	M.	F.		
Live Births	{	Legitimate	1,632	839	793	} Birth-rate 17·9
		Illegitimate	129	64	65	
		Total	1,761	903	858	
Stillbirths	{	Legitimate	46	24	22	} Rate 0·56*
		Illegitimate	9	3	6	
		Total	55	27	28	
Deaths		1,290	621	669	—Death-rate	13·1
Percentage of Total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions ..						52·2
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Childbirth		(From Sepsis 4)				6†
		(From Other Causes 2)				
Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age per 1,000 Live Births :—						
Legitimate..		38·6	Illegitimate..	46·5	Total	39·2
						NUMBER. RATE.
“ Zymotic Deaths ”						6 0·06
Deaths from Measles						0 0·00
Deaths from Whooping Cough						0 0·00
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)						4 ‡
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis						55 0·56
Deaths from Other Tuberculous Diseases						9 0·09
Total Tuberculosis Deaths						64 0·65
Deaths from Cancer						200 2·04
Deaths from Influenza						32 0·33

*30·3 per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births Registered.

†3·30 per 1,000 Total Births Registered.

‡2·3 per 1,000 Live Births Registered.

I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Population. The Registrar-General estimated the civilian population of the County Borough of Northampton for 1943 to be 98,150, or 3,650 below his estimate for 1942. From this it is not to be assumed that the population decreased by over three thousand five hundred in the twelve months. As mentioned in previous reports, the figures given for intercensal years are only estimates. The last general census in England and Wales took place in 1931, since when many changes have occurred in the population and it is improbable that we shall have another census until after the conclusion of hostilities.

The natural increase of the population, *i.e.*, the excess of live births over deaths, for 1943 was 471, or 4·80 per thousand living. For many years the natural increase of the local population was practically nil, in other words the population was stationary.

Births. 1,761 live births (903 males, 858 females) were registered (the largest number since 1921), giving a birth-rate of 17·9 per thousand of the estimated civilian population, compared with 16·5 for England and Wales and 18·6 for the 126 county boroughs and great towns, including the metropolitan boroughs. The local birth-rate shewed an increase of 2·2 per thousand and was the highest recorded since 1921. Table 1 (page 63) gives the rates for the last decennium compared with those for England and Wales. 129 (7·3 per cent.) of the births were illegitimate, compared with 3·2 per cent. in 1938.

Stillbirths. Fifty-five stillbirths were registered, giving a rate of 0·56 per thousand of the population, compared with 0·51 for England and Wales. The rate expressed per thousand total births (including stillbirths) registered was 30·3, while for England and Wales it was 30.

Additional notes on stillbirths appear on page 53.

Deaths. 1,290 deaths (621 males, 669 females) were registered, equal to a death-rate of 13·1, compared with 12·1 for England and Wales and 14·2 for the great towns. Table 2 (page 63) gives the local and national death-rates for the last ten years. The Northampton rate was 1·6 per thousand higher than the one for 1942 and the deaths registered were 123 more.

59·5 per cent. of the deaths related to elderly persons aged sixty-five years and upwards. This is what one might expect with such a large proportion of the population at ages over fifty, chiefly due to the low birth-rate extending back over a long period.

843 persons, comprising residents and non-residents, died in local institutions, equivalent to 52·2 per cent. of the total deaths; or, in other words, less than half of the persons who died in Northampton died in their own homes—one of the trends of modern times. The deaths of non-residents (with the exception of evacuees) were transferred by the Registrar-General to their respective areas, while the deaths of Northampton residents which occurred outside the Borough were credited to us as “inward transfers.”

101 deaths occurred for which no medical certificates of the causes of death were furnished, compared with eighty-seven during 1942. These included sixty-eight inquests, fifteen coroner's certificates after post-mortem examinations without inquests, and eighteen uncertified, equivalent to 7·8 per cent. of the nett deaths registered.

Table C at the end of this report, giving the causes of death in the different age-periods, was prepared in the Public Health Department from information supplied weekly by the local registrars. The classification agrees very closely with the figures received from the Registrar-General on 10th May, 1944.

Unemployment. The Manager of the Local Employment Exchange has again kindly furnished information from which the following notes were compiled.

The happy state of the labour market in Northampton, mentioned in my last report, continued throughout 1943 with the result that unemployment was reduced to an almost negligible figure. The total number of registered unemployed at the end of the year was only twenty-eight, compared with thirty-four at the end of December, 1942. So great was the demand for labour in the Borough that on occasions it exceeded the supply, necessitating the bringing in of persons from other areas. It is pleasing to be able to say that during 1943 labour troubles in Northampton were negligible, which is more than can be said of some industrial areas. Long may such a satisfactory state of affairs continue.

Meteorology. I have to thank Messrs. R. H. Primavesi, Ltd., for supplying the data (*see* Table 4, page 64) from which these notes were compiled.

The total rainfall for the year 1943 was 18·49 inches, *i.e.*, 6·58 inches below the average for the past thirty-nine years, 1904 to 1942 inclusive, which, owing to several wet years, had reached a figure of 25·07 inches after being about 24 for many years. According to our local records, 1943 was the second driest year since 1904 and the driest since 1921 when only 13·24 inches fell in the Borough. The wettest month was January, when 3·60 inches were recorded, and the driest was July with only 0·80. There were several other very dry months, viz :—April 0·82, March 0·90, December 0·99, and February 1·08. The heaviest fall in twenty-four hours was 0·41 inch on 7th June. The number of days on which 0·01 inch or more rain fell was 175, or three more than in the previous year. Though there was a general scarcity of rain in the southern half of England, the same cannot be said of the northern half of the country.

The highest shade temperature occurred on 31st July, when 89°F. was registered, and the lowest was 26°F. on 4th January, followed by 27°F. on 14th and 15th December. There were thirty-nine cold nights, *i.e.*, nights during which the temperature fell to 32°F. (freezing point) or below that figure. I regret to say that owing to the difficulty of obtaining sunshine recording cards we have no record of the hours of bright sunshine after the end of June. The prevailing wind was south-west on 127 days, south-east on 62, north-east on 58, north-west on 117, with one "calm" day.

Other Statistics. The notes on infant and maternal mortality, notifiable and other diseases, housing conditions, and other statistics usually included in the annual report, will be found under the headings referring to these matters.

Attention is also directed to the statistics on page 9 and to Tables B, C, and D at the end of this report.

II.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers. A list of the whole-time officers of the Public Health Department on 31st December, 1943, appears on page 8. This list does not include the names of two sanitary inspectors and three clerks absent on military service, one health visitor doing military nursing, and one clerk in the Women's Land Army.

For part-time staff connected with the Department see note in my report for 1941, page 12.

The staff employed in the school medical service is mentioned in the paragraph dealing with this subject on page 15.

Laboratory Facilities. These remained as in the previous year and are quite adequate, the greater part of the work being performed at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory established at Northampton General Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities. These were found to be sufficient for our requirements.

Nursing in the Home. These services, described in previous reports, remained as in former years and I think proved adequate when called upon for an additional effort during the short outbreak of influenza towards the close of the year. The calling up of so many women to the Forces and munitions has no doubt put an extra strain on the service.

Treatment Centres and Clinics. These remained as in previous years and I do not think any additions are required at present.

Municipal Hospitals. Full reports on the four municipal hospitals were given in my reports for 1930 and 1931.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, HARBOROUGH ROAD. No alterations or additions were carried out during the year and only the minimum of painting, etc., sufficient to preserve the structure was attempted. (*See also* page 30).

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL, WELFORD ROAD. The above remarks regarding the Infectious Diseases Hospital apply to the Tuberculosis Hospital and also to the Smallpox Hospital and St. Edmund's. (*See also* pages 30 and 44).

SMALLPOX HOSPITAL, MERE WAY. *See* above remarks and also page 31.

ST. EDMUND'S HOSPITAL, WELLINGBOROUGH ROAD. *See* above remarks and also page 31.

Voluntary Hospitals, etc. A description of Northampton General Hospital, Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, Creaton Sanatorium, and the County Mental Hospital, Berry Wood, appeared in my survey report for 1930. Additions and improvements have been recorded in subsequent reports.

Regional Hospitals Survey. On Friday, 20th August, 1943, the officers appointed by the Ministry of Health and the Nuffield Hospital Trust made a survey of all the hospitals in the Borough, both municipal and voluntary. For this purpose the County of Northamptonshire was attached to the Birmingham and West Midlands Area while for Civil Defence it forms part of the North Midland Region. The surveyors were Robert Veitch Clark, Esq., M.D., D.P.H., formerly Medical Officer of Health for the City of Manchester, John B. Hunter, Esq., F.R.C.S., Professor of Surgery at King's College, London, and Sir Ernest Hart, M.B.E., late Clerk to the Middlesex County Council. They were accompanied on their inspection by Charles T. Maitland, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., Principal Regional Medical Officer of the No. 9 Midland Region, Ministry of Health. The results of the survey had not been divulged up to the time of writing.

Poor Law Medical Out-relief. No change was made in this service, which is working satisfactorily.

Care of Mental Defectives. No changes were made in this service. According to the annual report of the Mental Welfare Officer there were at the end of the year thirty-four Borough patients in residence at Bromham House Colony, near Bedford, and a further nine at Rampton State Institution, Retford, Nottinghamshire. In addition, sixteen patients were accommodated in other certified and approved institutions and six at St. Edmund's Hospital. Three patients were allowed out on licence from St. Edmund's Hospital. The number of defectives under statutory supervision in the Borough at the end of 1943 was 189. Twenty-five of these were on licence from certified institutions.

St. Edmund's Hospital, which is administered by the Public Assistance Committee as a "mixed institution," is certified under Section 37 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, for the temporary reception of nine medium to low grade mental defectives, of either sex, over the age of sixteen years.

Maternity and Child Welfare. The information required by the Ministry of Health on the services provided under the following headings will be found in Section VII. of this report, dealing with maternity and child welfare, on pages 35 and 36 :—

- (a) Midwives Act, 1936 ;
- (b) Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children ;
- (c) Health Visitors ;
- (d) Child Life Protection ;

- (e) Dental and Orthopædic Treatment ;
- (f) Otorrhœa.

Maternity and Other Nursing Homes. At the end of the year there were five nursing homes on the register, viz :—

Maternity Homes	2
Mixed Home	1
Home for Non-maternity Cases	1
Home for Mothers and Babies (St. Saviour's)	1

These institutions contain fifty-four beds (including forty-three for maternity cases) and they were inspected at regular intervals by the Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, the officer appointed by the Local Supervising Authority to carry out this duty. (See page 55).

Five institutions were exempted from registration under Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936, viz :—Northampton General Hospital (including Barratt Maternity Home), Margaret Spencer Home of Rest, Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, John Greenwood Shipman Convalescent Home, and Bethany Homestead Nursing Home.

Legislation in Force. A list of Local Acts and Orders relating to public health in force in the Borough was given on pages 18 to 20 of the 1938 report. To them must be added the Northampton Corporation Act, 1943. The General Adoptive Acts and Byelaws were set out on pages 16 and 17 of the 1939 report.

Blind Persons. At the end of December, 1943, the number of blind persons resident in the Borough was 235, classified as follows :—

- 8 were St. Dunstan's trained men working at home ;
- 3 were in residential homes ;
- 1 was in a mental home ;
- 4 were in the County Mental Hospital ;
- 8 were in St. Edmund's Hospital ;
- 1 was undergoing industrial training ;
- 2 were at a blind school ;
- 32 were employed in the Workshops, Gray Street ;
- 2 were employed as homeworkers ;
- 10 were employed elsewhere ; and
- 164 were classified as unemployable and were living at home or in lodgings.

During the year, fourteen persons were examined by the ophthalmic surgeon with a view to being registered under the Blind Persons Act, of whom one was found to be "not blind." There were only sixty-three blind evacuees residing in the Borough at the end of 1943, compared with 133 at the end of 1940 and seventy-seven at the end of 1942. Thirteen of these were accommodated at "Brabourne," the hostel for blind evacuees.

No action was taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as none was considered necessary.

School Medical Service. The Medical Officer of Health, acting as School Medical Officer in an administrative capacity, keeps the Public Health and School Medical Departments in close touch with each other. The Assistant School Medical Officer, Dr. L. B. Peters, was called up for service in H.M. Forces and left the Department on 6th March, 1943, being succeeded in a temporary capacity by Dr. M. M. R. Gaffney, who commenced duty on 3rd May.

The whole-time permanent staff employed in school medical work comprises one medical officer designated Assistant School Medical Officer, two dentists, three nurses, and four clerks. Four nurses and one clerk are employed whole-time in a temporary capacity. One ophthalmic surgeon and a radiologist are employed part-time and an ear, nose, and throat specialist is engaged for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

The average number of local scholars on the registers of public elementary schools for the year ended 31st December, 1943, was 10,135, with an average attendance of 8,944 (88·2 per cent.). The average number of evacuees on the registers was 1,368, with an average attendance of 1,233 (90·1 per cent.). The number of evacuee school children in the Borough at the end of 1940 was 7,290. The trek back to London of these children has been in operation with varying speeds since shortly after the commencement of hostilities.

The annual report of the School Medical Officer, prepared according to the requirements of the Board of Education for the Education Committee, is published separately and gives details of the work carried out by the school medical service. (*See also "Schools,"* page 18).

Evacuation Scheme. The scheme for the reception and billeting in Northampton of evacuees from London and elsewhere was fully explained in my report for 1939. As mentioned in previous reports, the evacuees were not long in Northampton before they started a movement back to their old homes, a movement which has continued with certain fluctuations up to the time of writing. On 8th January, 1944, it was calculated that the following official evacuees remained with us :—

School children	1,258
Children under school age	307
Expectant mothers	61
Blind and their helpers	69
Teachers	28
Helpers	14
Juveniles employed	81
Other adults	654
Total	2,472

The corresponding figures for the years 1939, 1940, 1941, and 1942 were 6,717, 14,550, 8,726, and 4,158 respectively.

All official evacuees are under the supervision of the Secretary for Education in his capacity as Chief Billeting Officer for the Borough.

In addition to the official evacuees, there remain in the Town an

unknown number of unofficial ones, *i.e.*, persons who left London for Northampton on or shortly after the outbreak of hostilities and have not thought fit to return to their former domiciles.

Parties of expectant mothers continued to arrive weekly from London and were billeted in hostels or private houses according to circumstances. These women almost invariably return to London immediately after discharge from St. John's Emergency Maternity Home, Weston Favell.

Further references to evacuation are made in Section VII. of this report dealing with maternity and child welfare on page 37 and in Appendix II., page 58.

III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water. Particulars relating to the waterworks and sources of supply were given in previous reports. Owing to the small rainfall during the year and the additional calls for water, it was found necessary to make use of emergency supplies derived from the river Nene, permission having been granted by the Ministry of Health after an Inquiry held in Northampton by the Rt. Hon. Lord Amulree, M.D., M.R.C.P., and G. S. Wells, Esq., M.C., M.Inst.C.E., on 19th November, 1942. Boughton Crossing pumping station was brought into use on 13th December and that situated near the end of Merry Tom Lane on 20th December, 1943. The water from both these sources, like that from the reservoirs, is filtered and chlorinated before being put into the mains. The average daily consumption of water per head of the population is approximately twenty-five gallons.

Samples collected from different points within the Borough were sent weekly to the Devonport Pathological Laboratories, Greenwich. Eighty-seven samples were taken during 1943. The quality of the water continued to be excellent from a bacteriological standpoint, no *coli-aerogenes* organisms being present in 100 millilitres of any of the samples.

The Northampton Corporation Act, 1943, which received the Royal Assent on 5th August, 1943, was chiefly concerned with the provision of additional water supplies for the Borough. A few clauses dealing with health matters were also included.

Drainage and Sewerage. The sewerage system of the Borough was described in my report for 1933 after the construction of the new main outfall sewer and works at Ecton. The effluent is examined by the resident chemist before discharge into the river Nene.

Rivers and Streams. At no time during the year was the portion of the river Nene which flows through the Borough in such a state as to give rise to any nuisance or to cause flooding. As mentioned in my report for 1942, works have been carried out by the Nene Commissioners which it is hoped will prevent flooding in the low-lying portions of the Town, a matter of serious import to persons living in those areas.

Closet Accommodation. No conversions from pail closets or privies were undertaken nor were any hand-flushed closets (of which there are still many in the Borough) fitted with flushing cisterns. As to actual closet accommodation I do not think there is much, if any, shortage in Northampton.

Public Cleansing. This continues to be as efficiently performed as war conditions will allow.

Sanitary Inspection. The work of the sanitary inspectors is summarised in Table 5 (page 65) and Table 6 gives particulars of drainage reconstructions. During the year, 1,513 houses were inspected, of which 778 were found to require some attention, with the result that 617 were repaired, 404 were cleansed and whitewashed, while others were dealt with as the conditions required, details of which appear in Table 5.

There is difficulty in getting repairs to property executed owing to so many men employed in the building trade having been directed to what is conveniently called "war work." In the meantime property which might have had its life extended for a few years becomes hopeless.

Shops and Offices. During 1943 no premises were referred to us by the Inspector of Weights and Measures for necessary action under subsections (1) and (2) of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934.

Smoke Abatement. No action was taken in connection with any smoke abatement scheme. The emission of excessive amounts of smoke is not a problem which troubles us in Northampton.

Swimming Baths and Pools. Ten samples of water from swimming baths (nine from the Public Baths, Upper Mounts, and one from the open-air swimming pool, Midsummer Meadow) were examined by the bacteriologist and in seven instances the reports stated they were good samples of bath water and free from any trace of contamination. In the remaining three samples, which included the one from Midsummer Meadow pool, the count was high but no pathogenic organisms were detected.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. The Ministry of Health requires certain information regarding the eradication of bed bugs set out according to a prescribed form :—

- (1) During 1943 traces of bugs were found in thirty-two Council houses, the majority of the cases being of a slight nature.
- (2) The methods of disinfestation employed are :—
 - (a) The use of a spray, the insecticides used being "Clymax" and "Lowe's gassing solution";
 - (b) Fumigation by means of sulphur candles, *i.e.*, sulphur dioxide gas;
 - (c) Treatment by means of a blow-lamp. Where found necessary, the woodwork (skirting boards, picture rails, etc.) is removed prior to treatment.
- (3) The furniture of incoming tenants from bug-infested houses is

treated before removal to new houses. Soft articles (clothing, bedding, etc.) are disinfested by steam at the Public Health Committee's Disinfecting Station, St. Andrew's Road. Other furniture or articles which would be ruined by steam disinfection are sprayed with insecticide.

- (4) The work of disinfestation is carried out by officers of the Local Authority. Hydrogen cyanide gas has not been used in the Borough as it is considered too dangerous and not suitable for domestic use.
- (5) Supervision or education of tenants is given when Housing Department representatives are treating premises, so as to prevent re-infestation after cleansing.

I do not think the bug question is a very serious one in Northampton.

Schools. The Medical Officer of Health (the nominal School Medical Officer), together with the Assistant School Medical Officer and the sanitary inspectors, kept the sanitary condition of the schools under observation during the year.

Canal Boats. The annual report under Section 249 (3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, was dispatched to the Ministry of Health before the appointed date, viz.:—21st January. Mr. W. L. Monks, the Canal Boats Inspector, inspected eighteen boats registered to carry thirty-nine adults. The actual number of occupants on board was twenty-two adults and eight children. Two boats were found to be travelling without certificates and four boats required minor repairs. Letters were sent to the owners calling attention to these infringements. No legal proceedings were taken. No case of infectious disease was notified and no boat was detained for disinfection. The number of boats on the register believed to be in use was three.

Common Lodging Houses. At the end of 1943 there were four common lodging houses on the register, viz :—

PREMISES.	ACCOMMODATION (MEN).
52, Broad Street	28
38/40, Compton Street	8
31, Mayorhold	15
5, St. Andrew's Street	34
Total	85

All were visited regularly by Mr. B. Knowles, the Inspector of Common Lodging Houses, with occasional visits from the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector. The "permitted number" of one lodging house was on the application of the proprietor reduced from 46 to 28. The difficulty of keeping these premises in a decent state (never an easy one) has been made worse by the lack of suitable labour due to wartime conditions. This, together with the fact that all

the premises are old and badly planned for their present use, makes it imperative that the Council establish after the war a municipal lodging house which can be efficiently controlled and administered.

We have no houses let in lodgings nor byelaws dealing with such premises. Some houses have been let in flats owing to the shortage of housing accommodation in the Borough.

Factories. Table 8 (page 68) gives particulars of work done under the Factories Act, 1937.

Offensive Trades. No application for the commencement of any offensive trade was received during the year. At the end of December there were fourteen names on the register, viz :—two tanners, three tripe boilers, one soap boiler and fat melter, one bone dealer, and seven rag and bone dealers. All these trades were kept under supervision by the district sanitary inspectors and were conducted with the minimum of nuisance.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. We have no tent or shack dwellers in the Borough and no camping sites.

Premises controlled by Byelaws, etc. Particulars of these, excepting the above-mentioned, will be found in Section V. (pages 22 to 27) dealing with food, as they comprise cowsheds, dairies, bakehouses, slaughterhouses, etc.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. The object of these Acts was fully explained in my previous reports. The Chief Sanitary Inspector made ten visits to establishments where rag flock is used, for the purpose of inspecting the invoices. It was not considered necessary to take any samples.

Rat Repression. The Borough Rat-catcher, working under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, continued to make every week a "rat week" and accounted for 1,980 tails. His services are at the disposal of any Borough ratepayer on application to the Public Health Office. We still believe (and our experience goes back to 1919 when a rat-catcher was first appointed) that constant work rather than spasmodic efforts produces the best results in the anti-rat campaign. During the year we had visits from Colonel A. Barker, the Divisional Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Food, in connection with a national campaign against rats, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, in his capacity of Rat Officer, took part in conferences on the "zoning" of anti-rat measures. As regards rat-catching Northampton has little to learn from outside sources.

IV.—HOUSING

Council Houses. The Borough Engineer has supplied the Department with particulars of the present position of the municipal housing schemes :—

Number of Council houses completed during 1943	0
Total number of houses erected for the Corporation up to 31st December, 1943	4,790

Other New Buildings. The following private building operations, plans for which had been approved by the Highways Committee, were carried out during the year :—

Alterations or extensions to works, etc.	16
Motor garages	2
Store sheds, etc.	19
Water closets	13
Miscellaneous	5

Housing Acts. No. 12, King Street was the only house represented by the Medical Officer of Health under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, as being in such a state as to be unfit for human occupation. No Demolition Order was made and the premises were still occupied at the end of the year (*see* Table 7, page 67).

No house was repaired under the provisions of Section 9 of the same Act.

The staff made 853 visits of house-to-house inspection under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, and found defects in 477, chiefly want of cleanliness and repairs.

Slum Clearance. It would appear that slum clearance, which has been in abeyance since the outbreak of hostilities, will continue in that state for some time after their cessation, that is so far as demolition of unfit houses is concerned. However dilapidated houses may be, they will, unfortunately, have to do duty until they can be replaced by better ones.

Public Health Acts. Table 5 (page 65) gives particulars of the work of the sanitary inspectors under these Acts.

Prosecutions. No legal proceedings were necessary to enforce the repair of property in spite of the fact that work of this description is continually getting more difficult to carry out owing to the scarcity of labour and materials.

Other prosecutions are mentioned in the paragraphs dealing with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, on page 25 and Seizure of Unsound Food on page 24.

Overcrowding. Overcrowding continues to exist and circumstances are such that we can only alleviate the most serious cases. A large proportion of the complaints prove on investigation to be only of a minor character. There were twelve known cases of overcrowding at the end of 1943.

During the year we received nineteen applications from landlords, agents, etc., to supply the "permitted numbers" for 140 houses.

Sufficiency of Supply of Houses. From information kindly supplied by the Housing Manager it appears the waiting list for Council houses continues to increase and by the end of 1943 had reached 3,264. This figure, however, must be taken as approximate, as the usual Departmental canvass has not been taken during the war period, owing to the abnormal movement of families. It must not be assumed that every applicant is urgently in need of a house, though many are in that unfortunate position.

Housing Statistics. The particulars for 1943 are set out below in the form required by the Ministry of Health :—

1.—*Inspection of Dwellinghouses.*

(1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,513
(2) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	853
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	777

2.—*Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	407
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3.—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	373
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	366
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
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(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4.— <i>Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding.</i>	
A.—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	12
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	12
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	104*
B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	6
C.—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	10
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	68*
D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
E.—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	†

*Equivalent number of units=86 and 56½ respectively.

†See paragraph on "Overcrowding" on page 20.

Other Housing Matters. Reference should be made to Section III. "Sanitary Circumstances" for other information bearing on housing.

The estimated number of inhabited houses in the Borough on 31st December, 1943, was 29,400, of which just over 10,000 are estimated to have been built since 1st January, 1919.

V.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply. At the end of 1943 there were eighty-eight milch cows housed in the Borough, five more than at the corresponding time of 1942. All were periodically examined by the Veterinary Inspector of the Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In my opinion these inspections should be carried out more frequently, but this is impossible at present owing to the shortage of veterinary surgeons.

Milk in Schools. The milk-in-schools scheme continues to make progress. Local scholars consumed 2,494,014 bottles of milk (each containing one-third of a pint) and evacuees took 270,946 bottles. Of these numbers, 188,370 bottles were issued free to children whose parents were not considered to be in a position to pay for them. All the milk was pasteurised as none other is authorised by the School Medical Officer.

Tubercle Bacilli in Milk. During 1943, forty-five samples of milk were examined for us at Northampton General Hospital Laboratory for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Two were reported to contain this bacillus. Investigations by the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries resulted in the slaughter of one cow from an accredited herd. *Brucella abortus*, the organism responsible for a fever in human beings closely resembling Malta fever, was reported to be present in two samples of milk in which the tubercle bacillus was not detected. In one sample of milk, which was examined for the *Brucella abortus* organism only, it was not found.

As mentioned in my report for 1942, the way to ensure the absence of these pathogenic organisms from milk is to cause all milk to be heat treated before consumption. It is estimated that at the end of 1943, about eighty per cent. of the milk consumed in the Borough was being treated by heat.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops. At the end of the year, seven cowkeepers, 78 retail dairymen, and seven wholesalers were on the registers. Eleven of these resided outside the Borough; their premises were inspected by officers of the rural sanitary authorities and passed as fit for the purpose before they were placed on our register. In addition, 127 persons were allowed to sell milk in bottles on conditions explained in previous reports. The inspectors made 517 visits to registered premises, during which minor defects were found in eight instances and speedily remedied.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1943. The following licences under these Regulations were in operation at the end of 1943 :—

Dealers' licences to use the designation " tuberculin tested " :—	
(a) bottling establishments	2
(b) shops and other premises	13
Dealers' licences to use the designation " pasteurised " :—	
(a) pasteurising establishments	5
(b) shops and other premises	7
Producer's licence to use the designation " accredited "	1

These licences were held by fifteen dairymen in all.

128 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, viz :—twenty tuberculin tested, fifty-seven pasteurised, two accredited, forty-three ordinary loose milk, and six ordinary milk in bottles.

All but four of the twenty tuberculin tested milks satisfied the prescribed methylene blue reduction test for cleanliness.

Ten of the fifty-seven pasteurised milks failed to comply with the requirements of the Regulations; the satisfactory samples averaged 25,598 bacteria per millilitre. Two accredited samples gave counts of 1,400 and 55,000 per millilitre.

Nine of the forty-nine samples of ordinary milk were estimated to contain 500,000 or more bacteria per millilitre; the average of the remaining forty samples was 79,375.

Fifty-eight samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the phosphatase test to ascertain if pasteurisation had been properly carried out, *i.e.*, if the raw milk had been heated up to a sufficiently high temperature for the requisite period. Forty-five of the samples passed the test satisfactorily ; the remaining thirteen failed to do so.

Meat and Other Foods. No change was made in the methods of meat and food inspection, which were explained in previous reports. Tables 9 and 10 (pages 69 and 70) give particulars of food condemned. Though 128 tons of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption, it is not to be assumed that all this was a total loss. Records shew quite the contrary to be the case, as 113 tons were " processed " and made into tallow, soap, aero-glue, bone grease, gelatine, industrial glycerine (base for high explosives), glycerine extract, meat meal, bone meal, organic fertilisers, etc. Another twelve tons were used as animal feeding stuffs without processing. From the above it will be seen that only three tons were actually destroyed.

The scheme of Government control of slaughtering, brought into force on 15th January, 1940, whereby four slaughterhouses are used on a rota of three working and one available if required, was explained in previous reports. The number of animals slaughtered continues to rise and during 1943 reached the figure of 56,157 killed in the Government slaughterhouses, together with 173 slaughtered under " cottagers' " licences on farms, gardens, etc. In addition, approximately 120 tons of imported meat passed through the distributing depots. The percentage of cattle found after slaughter to be suffering from disease to a greater or less extent reached the unprecedented figure of 58.4, the explanation of which is assigned to three chief causes, viz :—

- (1) The allocation of non-thrifty cattle to supply manufacturing quotas rose 100 per cent. during the year ;
- (2) The scheme for " culling out " reject cattle to improve the national livestock standards raised the number of poor quality animals killed ;
- (3) " Dealers' casualties " increased during the middle of the year.

Certain parts of the carcasses, glands, etc., continue to be collected for the manufacture of medicinal substances for use in that branch of medicine known as organotherapy.

Northampton, like most towns, has felt the severe shortage of fish due to wartime conditions. Not only is the quantity on sale not up to that of former times but the quality of the fish has deteriorated quite as much as the quantity. An account appears on page 26 of some shell-fish found to be contaminated.

Disease in Meat. Table 10 (page 70) gives particulars of carcasses inspected and condemned. The number of animals slaughtered reached the figure of 56,330. (*See also* remarks above).

Seizure of Unsound Food. The officers of the Department did not seize any meat ; all which was condemned was voluntarily

surrendered (*see* Table 9, page 69). One seizure was made of unsound tomatoes, the vendor being fined £5 0s. 0d.

Slaughterhouses. At the end of the year there were thirty-six slaughterhouses on the register. These are licensed annually under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. As previously mentioned, only four are actually in use by the Government ; the rest are closed for the time being.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 and 1935. Under these Regulations, eighty-three notices of casual slaughter were received during 1943.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. The names of thirty-six slaughtermen were on the register on 31st December, 1943.

Grading and Marking of Foodstuffs. The sanitary inspectors continue to carry out the duties imposed by the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, and the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1928, and the numerous Orders made thereunder.

Bakehouses. At the end of the year there were seventy-three bakehouses on the register. To these premises the inspectors paid 197 visits, when nineteen minor infringements of the Act were discovered and remedied.

Other Premises dealing with Food. Under this heading come premises where food is dealt with other than those already mentioned, *e.g.*, those connected with the manufacture and storage of potted meats, jams, sweets, etc. 2,305 visits were made, when no serious defects were discovered.

Food Poisoning. No case of suspected food poisoning came to the notice of the Department during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. 285 samples (including 66 informal) were taken by the sanitary inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The nature of the samples submitted to the Public Analyst is given in detail in Table 12 (page 71). Thirteen of them (4·6 per cent.) were found to be not genuine. Five of these were informal samples. Of the eight formal samples found to be not genuine, all were milk and they were dealt with as follows :—

Sample No. 63. Milk deficient in milk-fat to the extent of 3·0 per cent. Warned.

No. 97. Milk deficient in milk-fat 12·6 per cent. Case dismissed.

No. 122. Milk contained 1·0 per cent. of added water. Warned.

No. 155. Milk deficient in milk-fat 24·0 per cent. Vendor was warned. No proceedings taken as the milk was unusually sour when received by the Analyst.

No. 160. Milk deficient in milk-fat 14·6 per cent. Vendor warned, milk being unusually sour on reaching the Analyst.

No. 172. Milk deficient in milk-fat 6·6 per cent. Warned.

No. 205. Milk contained 10·1 per cent. added water. Vendor was fined £10 plus £1 11s. 6d. costs.

No. 207. Milk contained 6·6 per cent. added water. Vendor was fined £6 6s. 0d. plus £1 11s. 6d. costs.

The average fat content of the 167 samples of genuine milk was 3·54 per cent. and the non-fatty solids 8·82 per cent.

All the milks sent for analysis were examined for the presence of preservatives, but none were detected.

There seems to be a more or less general impression that milk supplied during wartime is not up to pre-war standard. Our figures do not substantiate this impression. We have records going back for thirty-five years and we find there is no appreciable difference between pre-war and present-day fat contents and I may say that over that long period the milk sold in Northampton has been of a consistently good standard and well above the minimum laid down by the different orders and regulations which have governed the sale of milk for the past thirty-five years.

Preservatives, etc. No infringements of the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940, came to the notice of the Department during the year.

No action was taken under the Artificial Cream Act, 1929, the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, or the Public Health (Dried and Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1943.

Chemical Work. No change occurred in the arrangements for chemical examinations made on behalf of the Department.

Bacteriological Work. No change was made in the arrangements for bacteriological work carried out for the Department outlined on page 26 of my report for 1942. They are working satisfactorily.

Nutrition. No special work relating to nutrition was attempted and I do not think there is need of any.

Shell-fish and Watercress. No change was made in the source or distribution of watercress.

Noticing a considerable increase in the amount of shell-fish (mussels) on sale on the market ground, we had samples examined bacteriologically at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory with the result that all were found to be polluted with sewage. Following on these reports we circularised all fishmongers who traded in shell-fish to warn their customers to boil the mussels before consuming them. We also carried out the instructions contained in the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934, as to informing the medical officers of health of the districts from which the contaminated mussels emanated. Further consignments of mussels were received in the Town bearing a label stating they had been "relaid on the foreshore of the Saltings,—Harbour, for a period of not less than seven days." These were also found to be polluted and on

being surrendered by the dealers were destroyed. Further sources of supply were tried but in all cases the fish were found to be sewage contaminated. The local traders have agreed not to handle any more mussels until such time as relaying and cleansing can be efficiently carried out, which, in my opinion, is not likely to happen until after hostilities cease.

VI.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

“**Zymotic Deaths.**” During 1943 six deaths were certified as being due to the so-called “zymotic diseases,” giving a “zymotic death-rate” of 0·06 per thousand civilian population, the same as in 1942. These deaths are classified below :—

	NUMBER OF DEATHS.	DEATH- RATES.
Diarrhœa (under two years)	4	0·04
Diphtheria	1	0·01
Enteric Fever	0	0·00
Measles	0	0·00
Scarlet Fever	1	0·01
Smallpox	0	0·00
Whooping Cough	0	0·00

Each of these diseases is dealt with separately in the next few pages.

Measles. We received 533 notifications of this disease relating to civilians and four concerning non-civilians. The type was mild and no deaths were ascribed to this cause. The attack-rate was 5·47; for England and Wales it was 9·88. The national death-rate was 0·02.

Whooping Cough. One hundred and twenty-eight notifications of whooping cough were received, a little over twice the number received during 1942. The attack-rate was 1·30, while for England and Wales it was 2·54. The age of the youngest notified case was ten weeks and of the oldest thirty-five years. There is no reason why whooping cough should not attack adults as much as it does children, except that adults are almost certainly immunised against a further attack by having suffered from the disease during childhood; the same applies to scarlet fever and measles. No deaths were credited to this disease. The death-rate for England and Wales was 0·03.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis. Four Borough children under two years of age were certified as dying from enteritis, giving a rate of 2·3 per thousand live births registered, compared with 5·3 for England and Wales.

Influenza. This is not one of the notifiable diseases, consequently our knowledge of its incidence is not very exact, much of what is nothing more than “a severe cold” passing for influenza, for as the lady said, “it sounds more impressive to call it influenza.” Be that as it may,

there were thirty-two influenzal deaths, of which twenty-four occurred during the last five weeks of the year, constituting what was regarded by some persons as an "epidemic." The death-rate was 0·33, while for England and Wales it was 0·37.

Epidemics of what is now termed influenza have been recorded for over two centuries, the first one to occur in what might be called modern times being the pandemic of 1889. This outbreak, occurring towards the close of a period of brilliant bacteriological discoveries, further stimulated bacteriological research in all countries with a view to discovering the infecting organism. An organism named Pfeiffer's bacillus (after one of its discoverers) was claimed to be the sought-for agent and was accepted by many (but not by all) bacteriologists and clinicians. The chief reasons against its universal acceptance were, firstly, the bacillus could often be found in the respiratory passages of persons who did not and never had suffered from influenza and, secondly, it could not on many occasions be isolated from the respiratory passages of persons who were undoubtedly suffering from clinical influenza. There the matter stood. Time went on and the great pandemic of 1918-19 arrived carrying off more persons than were killed in the Great War. In spite of the large amount of research the claims of Pfeiffer's bacillus receded rather than advanced so that to-day few, if any, regard that bacillus as the cause of influenza. This conclusion is the result of a large amount of successful research on virus diseases, and the view now almost universally held is that influenza is, like distemper in dogs, due to a virus.

Cerebro-spinal Fever. In spite of overcrowding and other war-time conditions, cerebro-spinal meningitis shewed no signs of increase, only five cases being notified, three of them being out-of-town cases. All were treated at the General Hospital. The local attack-rate was 0·05 ; for England and Wales it was 0·08. One death, that of a child aged nine months, was attributed to this cause.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. This is commonly called "infantile paralysis," though there is no known reason why it should not attack adults, as it sometimes does. There were three notifications of this disease, the same number as in 1942. All the patients were treated at Northampton General Hospital in the first instance and one was later moved to Manfield Orthopædic Hospital. The other two were treated as out-patients at the Manfield Clinic.

Enterica. Two notifications of enterica were received, one relating to a case of typhoid fever in a girl of seventeen years brought into the General Hospital for treatment and not notified in her own residential area. The other referred to a Borough boy, aged fourteen years, who suffered from paratyphoid B and was treated at the Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital. Both cases recovered. The local attack-rate was 0·02 ; for England and Wales it was also 0·02 and the death-rate 0·00.

Dysentery. Twenty-six cases of dysentery were notified, twenty-five being of the Sonne type, the remaining one relating to a non-civilian

suffering from the Flexner type of disease. Three were treated at Harborough Road Hospital and two at the General Hospital. I do not think we receive notification of all cases of Sonne dysentery owing to the disease being of so mild a nature. It is looked upon as gastrointestinal disturbance probably due to food and no further notice taken of it. It is quite different with the Flexner type. The notified case was a soldier infected abroad who suffered from a relapse while in Northampton.

Erysipelas. Twenty-six notifications of erysipelas were received, compared with nineteen during 1942. The local attack-rate was 0·26, while for England and Wales it was 0·31. One case was treated at Northampton General Hospital and another at the Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Chickenpox. This disease not being notifiable except during the prevalence of smallpox, our knowledge of its incidence is not very exact. From the returns furnished weekly by head teachers, it would appear that 414 cases or suspected cases were reported amongst school children.

Vaccination. The arrangements regarding vaccination were given in previous reports. From the returns furnished by the two Vaccination Officers it appears that of the 2,137 infants whose births were registered in the Borough during 1942, 414 (19·4 per cent.) were successfully vaccinated.

During 1943 no vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Smallpox. No case of smallpox or suspected smallpox came to the notice of the Department during 1943.

Typhus Fever. No case of typhus fever or suspected typhus occurred during 1943. The clothing outfits prescribed by the Ministry to be worn by members of the staff called upon to deal with cases of typhus are still retained at Harborough Road Hospital.

Scarlet Fever. The incidence of scarlet fever shewed a considerable increase and accounted for 176 notifications, compared with sixty-three for 1942, or almost exactly the same as in 1941. The attack-rate of 1·79 compares with 3·01 for England and Wales. 111 patients were removed to the Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital, Harborough Road, where after a period of detention and observation twenty-nine were found to be not suffering from scarlet fever. One death was attributed to this cause, a child aged twenty months.

Diphtheria. Forty-seven notifications of diphtheria were received, as against eighty-three during 1942 and 334 in 1941. The attack-rate for Northampton was 0·48 and for England and Wales 0·88. Eighteen of the patients were males and twenty-nine females; their ages ranged from eighteen months to fifty-seven years. Forty-four were

removed to Harborough Road Hospital (a high proportion), where eight were found to be not suffering from diphtheria. One death was certified as due to this disease, a child aged four years, giving a death-rate of 0·01, compared with 0·03 for England and Wales.

137 phials of antitoxin (each of 8,000 units) were issued free to general practitioners in the Borough on application to the Public Health Department at a cost of £30.

The types of diphtheria prevalent in this area, as determined by the Bacteriologist at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northampton General Hospital, during the year were :— 43 per cent. *gravis*, 38 per cent. *mitis*, 18 per cent. *intermedius*, 1 per cent. atypical.

Immunisation against Diphtheria. During 1943 the number of school children aged from five to fifteen years who received two injections of the prophylactic (A.P.T.) according to the Ministry of Health specifications was 1,224 and of those under five years who come within the scope of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee was 1,381, making a total of 2,605 who completed the full course. At the end of 1943 it was estimated that 75 per cent. of school children and 45 per cent. of the under fives had been immunised. While neither of these percentages is as high as one desires, I feel that we have almost reached saturation point until there is another big outbreak of diphtheria in the Town, when there will probably be a better response on the part of parents for the protection of their children. The figure for the under fives is, in my opinion, a poor one, but it is not due to any lack of facilities being offered or of advice tendered at the infant welfare centres.

Sixty phials of A.P.T. (each of 5 c.c.) were supplied free to practitioners in connection with the immunisation work.

Pneumonia. 145 notifications of pneumonia were received, nearly fifty per cent. more than for 1942 in spite of the two winters involved being remarkably mild. The local attack-rate was 1·48 and for England and Wales it was 1·34. Eighty-four were males and sixty-one females. The ages of the patients ranged from five months to eighty-eight years. In nine instances the disease was classified as broncho-pneumonia and in twenty-one cases it was said to have supervened on influenza. Eight patients received treatment at Northampton General Hospital and two at St. Edmund's Hospital. Fifty-eight deaths were ascribed to pneumonia, compared with forty-eight in 1942.

Borough Hospitals. INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, HARBOROUGH ROAD. A full description of this hospital appeared in my report for 1930. Table 11 (page 70) gives statistics for 1943. The hospital was never half full during the year; the highest number of patients under treatment at any given time was twenty-five on the last nine days of the year, while the lowest was ten on three days in May. The average number was 17·5. (*See also* page 12).

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL, WELFORD ROAD. Full particulars of this hospital were given in my report for 1930. Further references occur on pages 12 and 44 of this report.

SMALLPOX HOSPITAL, MERE WAY. No work of any extent was carried out at this hospital, which is maintained in such a condition as to be available for opening on short notice. (*See also* page 12).

ST. EDMUND'S HOSPITAL, WELLINGBOROUGH ROAD. To this hospital, which is under the control of the Public Assistance Committee and ranks as a grade 2 hospital under the Emergency Hospital Scheme, no alterations or additions were made. (*See also* page 13).

Puerperal Pyrexia. Eighty-seven notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received, compared with ninety-six for 1942. Forty-four related to out-of-town cases not notified in their own areas. The attack-rate per thousand total births was 47·91, compared with 11·68 for England and Wales. Five cases were treated at home, two at St. Edmund's Hospital, and eighty at the General Hospital. Of the forty-three Borough cases, seven occurred in the practices of midwives, seven were general practitioners' cases; the remainder (twenty-nine) occurred in institutions.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Two cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified, as against none during 1942. Both cases were mild. No swabs were taken to discover the type of infecting organism and both recovered without any impairment of vision.

Venereal Diseases. In spite of continued wartime conditions and publicity given to the prevalence of venereal disease, the figures for Northampton do not shew the large increase one was led to expect. Increase there has been, but nothing like what one might infer from the matter being blazoned in almost every society paper one sees. From these remarks it is not to be inferred that I underrate the seriousness of venereal disease, it is merely that I like everything to be kept in its proper place with due regard to its proportion in the general picture.

328 Borough residents received treatment for the first time at the Special Clinic for venereal diseases at Northampton General Hospital, under the combined scheme worked in conjunction with the County Councils of Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire. The classification of these new cases was as follows :—

CONDITION.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Syphilis	41	18	59*
Gonorrhœa	65	25	90
Other than Venereal	79	100	179
Totals	185	143	328

(*Twenty-one male and twelve female syphilis cases were of more than one year's standing).

It will be noted from the above table that over half the persons who attended the Clinic for the first time were not suffering from venereal disease.

Six syphilis (two male and four female) and forty-two gonorrhœa (twenty-two male and twenty female) patients, including persons under treatment at the commencement of the year, carried out full courses of treatment recommended by the specialists in charge of the Clinic and were discharged after the final test of cure.

Six syphilis patients (one male and five females) and seventeen gonorrhœa patients (thirteen males and four females) ceased attending before completion of treatment or before final tests of cure were made, in other words they got tired of well doing, a common failure with that class.

The total attendances made by Borough patients at the out-patient clinics were 2,859. Nineteen days were spent in hospital by patients.

In the treatment of syphilis, 511 doses of approved arsenobenzene compounds (stabilarsan or sulfarsenol) were administered, as also were 1,068 doses of other preparations, a total of 1,579.

In connection with the scheme, 2,044 specimens were examined by the Pathologist at a cost of £451 2s. 0d.; 1,268 specimens were on behalf of the Treatment Centre, 597 for hospitals and other institutions, and 179 for local practitioners.

The Borough Council makes an annual grant of £23 to the Central Council for Health Education for propaganda purposes.

The times at which the clinics are held at Northampton General Hospital remain the same as last year, viz. :—

Males—Wednesday, 2 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.

Females—Monday, 7 p.m.; Friday, 12 noon.

Circumstances did not permit Regulation 33B being put into operation. We had the help of two United States Army nurses specially selected for venereal disease work in searching out contacts and inducing them to seek treatment at the Clinic. I understand they were very successful.

Cancer. No advance was made regarding the treatment of cancer, wartime emergencies having prevented the carrying out of the Cancer Act, 1939. The number of deaths in Northampton during 1943 attributed to cancer was 200, giving a local death-rate from this cause of 2·04 (the highest so far recorded); for England and Wales it was 1·90. Table 3 (page 63) gives comparable figures for the last ten years.

Prevention of Blindness. The information required by the Ministry of Health will be found under the heading "Blind Persons" on page 14.

Tuberculosis. The report of the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. N. B. Laughton, the twenty-fifth in the series, is printed as Appendix I. on pages 39 to 51.

Ninety-five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and twenty-six of other forms were entered on the register of the Medical Officer of Health, a total of 121.

The total tuberculosis death-rate for Northampton was 0·65 (respiratory 0·56; other forms 0·09). The corresponding figure for England

and Wales was 0·67 (respiratory 0·56 ; other forms 0·11). For the year 1918, the last year of the First World War, the total tuberculosis death-rate for the Borough was 2·66 (respiratory 2·28 ; other forms 0·38). Table T6 on page 49 gives comparable figures for the last ten years.

Any person comparing the foregoing sets of figures must be struck by the remarkable inroads that have been made against tuberculosis during the last quarter of a century. The death-rate from the pulmonary form has in Northampton been reduced to a quarter of what it was twenty-five years ago and for all other forms the rate has fallen almost as much. Another point worth noting is that five years of war with long working hours, food rationing, etc., have not retarded the progress made against tuberculosis. On examination of Table T6 it will be seen that the death-rate from tuberculosis in Northampton for the past ten years has been more frequently below the corresponding rate for England and Wales than above it. For this satisfactory state of affairs it appears to me there are only two possible explanations, viz.:—(1) the boot and shoe trade, the staple industry of Northampton, is not so conducive to tuberculosis as it is said to be, or (2) the rest of Northampton's population must be relatively immune (if one may use such an expression) considering that about one-tenth of the total persons employed in the shoe industry in the country live in the Borough. In other words, the population of Northampton is heavily weighted with persons engaged in an occupation said to be highly conducive to tuberculosis, yet its death-rate from that disease is generally below that for England and Wales.

Much has been heard lately concerning mass radiography and it is expected that this will be available in the Borough towards the end of the year or by the beginning of 1945. It may not be out of place to issue a word of warning about expecting too much from X-rays. This method is only to be looked upon as ancillary to diagnosis. It does not follow that any person shewing some abnormality of the lungs in the X-ray photograph is necessarily suffering from tuberculosis, but it is an indication for further observation and investigation.

Maintenance allowances according to the scale given in Ministry of Health Memorandum 266/T. have been paid in this Borough since 1st November, 1943. Up to the end of the year, forty-four applicants benefited to the extent of £344 11s. 6d. In order to cope with this extra work, an almoner, Miss J. Adam, was appointed, taking up duties on 19th October, 1943.

Bacteriology. No change was made in the arrangements for carrying out the bacteriological work connected with the Department. All this, with the exception of the examination of water, is performed in the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northampton General Hospital, the water being examined weekly by Dr. Arthur Davies at the Devonport Pathological Laboratories, Greenwich, S.E.10. Table 13 (page 72) gives particulars of clinical bacteriology.

Disinfection and Disinfestation. The number of articles dealt with at the Disinfecting Station, St. Andrew's Road, was 5,754.

Scabies. The arrangements mentioned in my report for 1942 for the treatment of cases of scabies in a separate section at Miller's Meadow Slipper Baths, St. Andrew's Road, were continued throughout 1943. During the year, in addition to school children under the Education Committee's scheme, 451 patients (143 males and 308 females) made 1,389 attendances ; 375 of these patients were over school age. While the treatment with benzyl benzoate was eminently successful, new cases continued to present themselves for treatment.

Head-lice. The presence of lice in the heads of children and adults, chiefly women, has been brought into prominence recently, possibly owing to new means of eradication having been introduced, and has caused the Ministry of Health to issue Circular 2831, dated 2nd July, 1943, dealing with the subject. After experiments lasting over a considerable time it was discovered that the use of a certain oil (lethane), in small quantities, rubbed on the scalp rather than on the hair itself, would produce death in the lice, but not in the nits, if left for a week without washing. This preparation is put up in a very attractive form, scented with a little oil of citronella and resembling brilliantine. I have introduced it to nurses at some of the large works in the Borough, where it has been well received and is far in advance of any previous method of getting rid of, and keeping free from, head-lice. It is also in use at the School Clinic and the Infant Welfare Department.

VII.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

General Remarks. The twenty-third annual report of the Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare on the work of that Department will be found in Appendix II on pages 52 to 62.

The principal change in the staff was the appointment as Superintendent Health Visitor of Miss S. M. Weeks, who commenced duty on 1st November. Miss J. M. Fell, junior clerk in the Department, joined the Women's Land Army on 31st July and was replaced by Miss B. Holmes.

Infant Mortality. The infantile mortality-rate was 39·2 per thousand live births registered, the lowest ever recorded in the Borough, compared with 49 for England and Wales and 58 for the 126 great towns. For many years the local infantile death-rate has been consistently lower than that for England and Wales and also for the large towns, but we must not allow that fact to lull us into a state of complacency, as there are no grounds for such a feeling. While the infant death-rate in Northampton was 142·9 for the first year of the present century and has fallen to 39·2 by 1943, it should have fallen still lower ; the same remark applies to the whole country, including the great towns. If the infantile death-rate of New York, with its skyscrapers and great extremes of climate, etc., can be reduced to 28·8 per thousand, as it was in 1942, it is difficult to see why the same should not be done here. The fact remains it is

not done either in Northampton or in any other part of the country, even where the facilities are probably greater than ours.

As I have pointed out on previous occasions, it is the neo-natal deaths (many of them due to prematurity) which play such a big part in the deaths of children under one year. It is doubtful if we shall reduce infant mortality much below its present rate until we have more elaborate means of saving premature babies. This matter should be taken up with enthusiasm after the cessation of hostilities, when times become more normal. It is quite impossible from want of staff, apparatus, etc., to do anything effective in this way at present.

Maternal Mortality. The number of maternal deaths occurring amongst Borough women was six, giving a rate of 3·30 per thousand total births registered (sepsis 2·20 ; other maternal causes 1·10). This is the second year in succession in which the local maternal death-rate has exceeded that for England and Wales (2·29) and it does not shew up well against our previous good record. Included in the six deaths were two from septic abortion.

These deaths are classified more particularly in the report of the Assistant Medical Officer, page 58. Each death was inquired into and a report giving all the salient facts was forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

Toddlers. Children aged one to five years, *i.e.*, pre-school children, receive care and attention through the agency of the health visitors and special clinics. It is hoped by these means to assure that children on reaching the age of five shall enter school free from minor ailments, a very laudable wish.

Midwives Act, 1936. The provisions of this Act and the means taken in Northampton for putting them into practice were explained in previous reports. The arrangements between the Town Council and the Queen's Institute are working to the satisfaction of all parties.

Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children. This remains as in previous years and continues to work satisfactorily.

At the end of the year there were five registered nursing-homes in the Borough, classified as follows :—one is a mixed home for medical, surgical, and maternity cases ; two are registered for maternity only ; one is a home for mothers and babies (St. Saviour's) ; and one is registered for the admission of aged and infirm persons. (*See also* page 14).

In my report for 1942 I mentioned the difficulty experienced by hospitals, nursing homes, and such like institutions in obtaining sufficient nursing and domestic staff. From what one hears it would seem that the position is a little easier than it was a year ago, though it is still far from satisfactory.

The urgent call for maternity beds in the Borough, mentioned in my last report, has continued up to the time of writing and is likely to continue for at least some years after the cessation of hostilities. By an arrangement with the Public Assistance Committee four more beds for maternity cases have been placed at the disposal of the Maternity Committee, which it is hoped will tide us over until other arrangements can be

made to provide additional accommodation. The curtailing of the stay of mothers and babies in hospital from fourteen days to ten after birth has not given rise to any ill-effects. The number of deliveries at St. Edmund's Hospital during the year was 293.

Health Visitors. The number of health visitors employed by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee at the end of the year was eight, the staff having been increased by the appointment of Miss S. M. Weeks as Superintendent Health Visitor, taking up her duties on 1st November, 1943. Health visiting is really the backbone of the work of the Infant Welfare Department. It is by visiting the women in their homes that contact is maintained and mothers are induced to bring their children (both babies and toddlers) to the "centres," where much useful advice is given. (See list of health visitors on page 8 and paragraph on "Home Visitation" on page 53).

Child Life Protection. The health visitors, acting as child protection visitors, reported on their visits to the guardians, *i.e.*, persons undertaking the care of children for reward. For statistics see page 58.

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, came into force on 1st June, 1943.

Dental and Orthopædic Treatment. The arrangements made some years ago and outlined in previous reports continued to function and expand. The amount of dental treatment given to expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children by the School Dental Officer has increased so much during the last two years that it has begun to encroach on and impede his school work to such an extent that it has been found necessary for the Assistant School Dentist to give one session per week to the maternity work. There is a limit to which the Education Committee can go in allowing their dental officers to assist the Maternity Committee. (See paragraphs on pages 57 and 54).

Otorrhœa. As mentioned in previous reports the important work of treating otorrhœa (discharging ears) in pre-school children is carried out by the school nurses at the Clinic in King Street. Ten cases made sixty attendances during the year.

Milk for Mothers and Children. The National Milk Scheme worked satisfactorily in the Borough during the year and I am not aware of any mothers or children suffering from a shortage of milk. (See note on quality of milk in Northampton on page 26 and also paragraph on "Milk" on page 57).

Clothes Rationing. Supplementary clothing coupons to expectant mothers were issued by the Infant Welfare Department until 24th July, 1943, 1,046 applications being dealt with. On that date the Food Office took over the work.

Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil. These vitamin supplements for expectant mothers and for children under five years were issued from the Food Office, Fish Street, where the arrangements worked satisfactorily.

Evacuation Scheme. Throughout the year parties of expectant mothers from London continued to arrive in Northampton every Friday, where they were seen at the Infant Welfare Centre, St. Giles' Street, by the Assistant Medical Officer, Dr. M. M. Williams, before being dispatched to hostels or billets under the control of the Chief Billeting Officer. Though the parties nominally consisted of twenty women, there were generally not more than fourteen or fifteen in a party, when it was possible to accommodate most of them in hostels. Actually 782 women arrived, all destined for St. John's Emergency Maternity Home, Weston Favell. From the outbreak of war to the end of 1943, 3,111 women had arrived in these weekly parties and 439 unofficial expectant mothers registered with the Maternity Department, making a total of 3,550. Nearly all the women returned to London fourteen days after delivery.

The members of the Voluntary Committee continued to give valuable help with the reception of these expectant women at St. Giles' Street Centre.

During the year, 948 women (including 724 evacuees) were delivered in St. John's Home and 293 in St. Edmund's Hospital.

(See also pages 15 and 58).

Voluntary Workers. The Voluntary Committee continued to give their valuable help to supplement the work of the whole-time staff of the Department, especially at the weekly "centres." An account of this work is given in the report of the Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare on page 54.

Wartime Day Nurseries. An account of the five wartime day nurseries was given on pages 37 and 38 of my report for 1942.

These continued to function satisfactorily and were so popular with young mothers that there was nearly always a waiting list of children to be admitted on a vacancy occurring. It was probably on account of the waiting lists and the feeling against the opening of any further nurseries that the Ministry of Health authorised the increase in the number of children to be admitted to each nursery from forty to forty-eight. This is all very well if and when all the children are not in attendance, owing to sickness or some other cause, but in my opinion forty-eight is too many for the floor space when all are present. The climatic conditions which prevailed during the winter of 1943-44 were favourable to the nurseries, though the attendances, owing to colds, whooping cough, etc., were never 100 per cent., so that the additional children on the books led to little or no overcrowding. The question of overcrowding will not arise so acutely during the summer months when the children will spend most of their time in the playground.

At the time of writing work is in progress on the erection of a sixth nursery on a slightly modified design.

Small Nursery Unit. This unit, about which I wrote in my last report, continues to do as good work as ever it did for four children under two years of age.

Home Helps. The idea of providing home helps is not a new one in Northampton. It was first brought before the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee on 11th April, 1938, when the Medical Officer of Health communicated with twenty other medical officers of health of large industrial towns asking for their experiences. On receipt of this information, which was generally to the effect that there was little call for this kind of assistance, or, where there was a demand, the "helps" were not a success, it was resolved not to proceed any further in the matter. Though the present demand is probably greater than in pre-war years, the number of suitable women available for this responsible work is considerably less. It would be a mistake to think that any woman will do as a home help. (*See also page 59*).

Administration of Analgesics. In January, 1943, the Local Supervising Authority gave permission to midwives who could produce a certificate of competence in the use of the Minnitt gas-air analgesia apparatus to use it in their practices. At the end of the year there were ten midwives in the Borough (eight in institutions and two Queen's nurses) qualified to use the apparatus, which is not supplied by the Local Authority to domiciliary midwives. No applications to make use of gas and air analgesia have been received from midwives in domiciliary practice, other than the Queen's nurses, who conduct the domiciliary midwifery on behalf of the Borough Council by agreement under the Midwives Act, 1936.

See Appendix III. (page 63) for the usual statistical tables in connection with the Medical Officer of Health's report.

Appendix I. (page 39) deals with the work of the Tuberculosis Department and Appendix II. (page 52) with the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

APPENDIX I.

REPORT OF THE CLINICAL TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1943

HEALTH CLINIC,
2, HAZELWOOD ROAD,
NORTHAMPTON.
MAY, 1944.

To the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Tuberculosis Officer.

SIR,

I beg to submit my report on the anti-tuberculosis scheme for the year 1943.

Your obedient Servant,

N. B. LAUGHTON

Notifications. During the year, 121 persons were notified as suffering from tuberculosis. Of these, 95 were pulmonary and 26 non-pulmonary. Their disposal and age groups are shewn in Tables T8 and T9 (page 51). In addition, 9 cases already notified in other areas came into the Borough. The number of notifications shews an increase on that of the previous year.

Deaths. The number of deaths and the death-rates from tuberculosis per thousand of the population in 1943 were as follow :—

	NO. OF DEATHS.	DEATH- RATES.
Respiratory Tuberculosis	55	0·56
Other Forms	9	0·09
Totals	64	0·65

The death-rate for all forms for England and Wales in 1943 was 0·67 (respiratory 0·56, other forms 0·11).

Table T6 on page 49 gives the total tuberculosis death-rates for Northampton and for England and Wales during the last ten years. There will be noted a tendency towards a secondary war rise in mortality, a possibility foreshadowed last year.

Revision of Register. Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, the names of twenty-four notified persons were removed from the register in 1943, these consisting of :—

- (a) Twelve in whom the diagnosis had not been established and
- (b) Twelve where the patient might be regarded as having recovered.

Particulars of the cases were submitted to the Medical Officer of Health, who decided whether they were suitable for deletion and, if so, under which heading.

On 31st December, 1943, there were 655 names on the Medical Officer of Health's register, 476 relating to pulmonary and 179 to non-pulmonary patients.

The number on the register of the Health Clinic on that date was 584.

The Services. During 1943, fourteen men and two women from this area were discharged from the Services suffering from tuberculosis. In all sixteen of these the disease was pulmonary. In most of them the disease was considerably advanced.

One hundred men and eight women recruits were examined at the request of the National Service Medical Boards. Among them were found two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

X-ray Examinations. The number of radiological examinations has continued to increase, due chiefly to the number of cases sent to the Clinic for investigation and diagnosis. 1,908 screen and 780 photographic examinations were carried out, a total of 2,688.

Artificial Pneumothorax. This form of collapse therapy takes a prominent place in treatment, and after patients leave hospital or sanatorium it is continued at the Health Clinic. Fifty-seven patients were treated, inductions and refills numbering 1,131. This represents 9·8 per cent. of those under treatment or supervision at the Clinic. A full collapse, or nearly so, was obtained in over half the cases, and a moderately good but effective result got in all but four of the remainder. Treatment was discontinued in twelve instances. A satisfactory termination was reached in eight of these after periods ranging from four and a half to six years, in two this was brought about by progressive obliteration of the pleural space, one left the area, and one was discontinued owing to deterioration in the patient's condition. With the exception of the last, results were good. At the end of the year, forty-five (seventy-nine per cent.) were fit for remunerative work (or housework in the case of some women) and twelve (twenty-one per cent.), of whom three were still in hospital, were unfit for employment. In view of these good results it is interesting to note the extent of disease existing when the patients were treated—twenty-eight per cent. were early, sixty per cent. had reached an intermediate stage, and twelve per cent. were advanced. In forty-one of the fifty-seven patients, the sputum, originally positive (*i.e.*, containing tubercle bacilli) became negative or disappeared altogether; in four, tubercle bacilli continued to be present. In five cases a negative sputum remained and in seven there was no sputum at any time.

Extra Nourishment. During the year, twenty-four grants of extra nourishment were made and nine patients benefited. The number of applications for this benefit has fallen during the war.

Park Workers. At the beginning of 1943 ten men were employed under this scheme. One additional man was given work and four were taken off as a result of illness, leaving seven at the end of the year.

Housing. The importance of good housing in the prevention of tuberculosis needs no emphasis. The housing shortage has added considerably to the difficulty of securing good, hygienic accommodation and isolation, especially where new cases have arisen in bad homes, but the Housing Committee has willingly given every assistance possible in this respect. In December, 1943, the number of tuberculous persons living in Council houses was 206. Needless to say the whole household benefits owing to a reduction in the risk of infection.

Care Work. The work of the Care Committee shewed a notable advance during the year and has played an increasing part in the fight against tuberculosis. Early in the year affiliation to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis was effected and the Committee was enlarged. Sub-committees were appointed for special branches of the work. The first Christmas Seal Sale was organised successfully and raised £262 0s. 0d. Funds were further augmented by the proceeds of a Flag Day (£92 0s. 0d.), the usual £150 0s. 0d. grant from the Council, and voluntary donations. The money has gone to the assistance of patients and their families in providing clothing, bedding, footwear, extra nourishment, medical comforts, and domestic help. A special report on the Committee's work has been issued by the Honorary Secretary, Miss I. M. Chick.

Memorandum 266/T. The outstanding feature of the tuberculosis world in 1943, and the most important event for many years, was the issue by the Ministry of Health of Memorandum 266/T. At last it seemed as if the transitional and narrow-sighted outlook on the problem of tuberculosis was to be replaced by a broader vision looking to prevention rather than to treatment as a means of eradicating the disease. Although there was evident a note of hesitancy and a reluctance to recognise the economic possibilities of a vigorous preventive policy the memorandum was welcomed as being useful and constructive. It was an awakening from the attitude which, year after year, complacently tolerated a high incidence of advanced cases, a lack of institutional beds to accommodate them, and the building of expensive sanatoria unwilling to accept those who had passed beyond an early stage of disease.

There is embodied in the memorandum a three-fold attack upon tuberculosis; firstly, by mass miniature radiography of the adult population, whereby it is hoped to detect and treat the disease at an early stage; secondly, by the provision of financial allowances to patients and their families, so as to allay anxiety and permit of necessary treatment; thirdly, to restore the patient to his place in the community by an adequate scheme of rehabilitation.

The mass miniature radiography unit assigned to the County and Borough of Northampton is expected to come into operation about the

end of the present year. Much will depend on public response, and this again on the initial effort that is made to convince people of the benefits to be obtained by their full co-operation. Unfortunately, there will always be that small but damaging minority who resist investigation and treatment and spread the seed of infection.

To those who knew from experience the financial anxiety and difficulties often associated with treatment, the granting of allowances was hailed as very good news. But hopes were damped considerably on realising the limits of its applicability and of its interpretation in particular cases. Thus many who badly needed such help were excluded. As local authorities are empowered, however, to grant financial assistance outside those allowed by the Government Scheme, the Borough Council wisely decided to do this. The Government Scheme came into operation on 1st November and has worked satisfactorily. (The Borough Scheme is outside the scope of this report, as it did not become effective till 1st April, 1944).

Health Clinic. The work of the Health Clinic has steadily increased for years and cannot now be carried out as it should, by any manner of arrangement or effort, in accommodation so ill-placed and ill-suited for the purpose. This handicap, referred to in this report for the past four years, impedes the forward drive now being made against tuberculosis. The following data of some sections of the work shew how it compares with ten years ago :—

	1933	1943
Attendances	1,148	3,265
Patients sent for investigation	121	744
Consultations (personal and other)	391	1,090
X-ray examinations	500	2,688
Artificial pneumothorax refills	74	932
Sputum examinations	535	874

There have been changes in the medical staff. Dr. M. O'Connor, who had given valuable help on two days a week since June, 1940, left in May, and Dr. J. St. P. Cowell gave full-time assistance from 7th July till 30th November, when he took up another appointment.

A new and important step was the appointment of an almoner (Miss J. Adam) who took up her duties on 1st November. These include medico-social work in its broadest sense, a matter of great importance in tuberculosis work. Here there is a fruitful field of opportunity with respect to the physical and mental background of the patient and his household. Miss Adam deals with allowances applied for under Memorandum 266/T. and is closely associated with the work of the Care Committee.

A summary of the work at the Health Clinic is given below :—

Attendances (including contacts, etc.) :—

Total number	3,265
Patients attending :—	
Males	736
Females	682
	———— 1,418
Average number of attendances per patient	2·3
Contacts :—	
Total number of examinations	219
Individuals examined	177
Of these, four were subsequently notified.	
Recruits (from National Service Medical Boards)	108
Examinations for diagnosis :—	
Total number of examinations	878
Individuals examined	744
60 of these were found to have active tuberculosis.	
Visits by Tuberculosis Officer to patients and their homes ..	208
Consultations :—	
Personal	27
Other	1,063
	———— 1,090

TUBERCULOSIS VISITOR. Visits made by the Tuberculosis Nurse were as follow :—

Investigation in cases of :—	
Pulmonary tuberculosis	92
Other forms	27
Deaths	7
	———— 126
Re-visits and other investigations	744
	————
Total	870
	————

In addition to these investigations, the Tuberculosis Nurse attended at all clinics and assisted in the carrying out of special treatment (*e.g.*, artificial pneumothorax).

LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS. The results of laboratory examinations carried out at the Clinic (including those of specimens from Welford Road Hospital) are given below :—

Cases investigated	668
Results of bacteriological examinations for tubercle bacilli in sputum, urine, etc. :—	
Positive	148
Negative	726
	———— 874
X-RAY EXAMINATIONS :—	
Films	780
Screenings	1,908
	———— 2,688

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX :—

Refills	1,131
Patients treated	57

Welford Road Hospital. During 1943, eighty-five patients were treated in the hospital and the average number of beds occupied daily was 33·2, a figure that represents more than the normal establishment. Only a few refused to have institutional treatment. Treatment is based on the fundamental principles of physical and mental rest (especially in the early stages) under healthy open-air conditions, with an ample and nutritious diet. Artificial pneumothorax is used where likely to be beneficial and the results have been satisfactory. Emphasis is laid on instruction to patients with respect to the disease, as this has proved of the greatest value in the prevention of relapse.

Wartime conditions have imposed difficulties as regards diet, but from the nutritional standpoint patients do not appear to have suffered.

The shortage of nursing and domestic staff, now general in all hospitals, has, however, been a matter of serious concern at times, but there are now signs of the position improving. The nursing staff has been constantly below normal establishment, sometimes seriously so, and for domestic work reliance has had to be placed almost entirely on daily workers living outside. It is unlikely that Welford Road Hospital will benefit by the provisions recommended in the Rushcliffe Report until the supply of nurses exceeds the demand, for a great number of vacancies exist in large sanatoria affording opportunities and amenities much better than those given by the smaller ones. Nevertheless, as has been pointed out in these pages for some years, the unsatisfactory accommodation at Welford Road Hospital for nurses and maids only adds to the difficulties both of getting and keeping staff.

There must be few hospitals or sanatoria of this size so conveniently and ideally situated ; but, as in the case of the Health Clinic, the buildings are more than outdated, for they were not designed originally for the purpose for which they have been in use for the past thirty years. New wards are called for, as well as facilities, notably X-ray, needful for proper carrying out of administrative and clinical work. Mass radiography will entail the need for a considerable number of additional beds at an early date.

A summary is given below of particulars respecting the treatment of patients at Welford Road Hospital :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining at end of 1942	13	11	24
Admitted	29	32	61
Treated	42	43	85
Discharged	19	21	40
Died	9	5	14
Remaining at end of 1943	14	17	31

Condition on discharge :—

Quiescent	7
Much improved	24
Improved	4
No material improvement	5
Average number of days in hospital (excluding those under one month)	223 (7½ months)
Average gain in weight	15 pounds
Highest weight gained	49 pounds
Ages of patients	14 to 61 years

Result of sputum examinations for tubercle bacilli:—

Admitted with sputum T.B.+	28
Number of these discharged with T.B.+	17
Number of these discharged with T.B.— or no sputum	11
Admitted with sputum T.B.— or no sputum	12
Number of these discharged with T.B.— or no sputum	10
Number of these discharged with sputum T.B.+	2

Artificial pneumothorax treatment :—

Patients treated in hospital	9
Number of inductions and refills	199

Creton Sanatorium. Below are the data with reference to the patients treated at Creton Sanatorium in 1943 :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining at end of 1942	6	4	10
Admitted	14	7	21
Treated	20	11	31
Discharged	11	6	17
Died	1	1	2
Remaining at end of 1943	8	4	12

Condition on discharge :—

Quiescent	2
Much improved	6
Improved	9

Manfield Orthopædic Hospital. Particulars of cases treated at Manfield Orthopædic Hospital and Shipman Convalescent Home are as follow :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining at end of 1942	2	5	7
Admitted	5	2	7
Treated	7	7	14
Discharged	3	3	6
Remaining at end of 1943	4	4	8

Condition on discharge :—

Quiescent	3
Improved	3

Other Institutions. One patient was maintained at the Leonard Stewart Forster Home, Otham, two at the Victoria Home for Invalid Children, Windsor, one at St. Peter's Home, Woking, one at St. Michael's Hospital, Hayle, one at Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, one at King Edward VII. Sanatorium, Midhurst, one at the Civil Isolation Hospital, Aldershot, one at Papworth Village Settlement, and one at the Royal National Sanatorium, Bournemouth.

Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925. It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relate to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936. There was no case of compulsory removal to hospital, under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

TABLE T1. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

TUBERCULOSIS. CLASSIFICATION OF NEW CASES.

CLASSIFICATION.	NOTIFIED CASES.			DEATHS OF CASES NOT NOTIFIED.		
	M.	F.	TOTAL.	M.	F.	TOTAL.
Pulmonary :—						
Lung and Pleura	60	35	95	2	3	5
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—
	60	35	95*	2	3	5*
Meninges and Brain	1	—	1	1	2	3
Peritoneum and Intestines	3	3	6	—	—	—
Bones and Joints	2	4	6	—	—	—
Cervical Glands	4	6	10	—	—	—
Other Organs	1	2	3	1	1	2
Totals	71	50	121	4	6	10

* A total of 100 fresh cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

TABLE T2. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS INVESTIGATIONS. DURATION OF ILLNESS.

PERIOD.	NOTIFIED CASES.	DEATHS OF CASES NOT NOTIFIED.	TOTALS.
Under 6 months	39	1	40
Over 6 months and under 1 year	12	—	12
Over 1 year and under 2 years ..	18	—	18
Over 2 years and under 3 years	7	—	7
Over 3 years and under 4 years	2	—	2
Over 4 years and under 5 years	5	—	5
Over 5 years	7	1	8
Unascertained	5	3	8
Totals	95	5	100

TABLE T3. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS INVESTIGATIONS. SEX AND STATE.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTALS.
Single	19	19	38
Married	35	17	52
Widowed	2	—	2
Unascertained	6	2	8
Totals	62	38	100

TABLE T4. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS INVESTIGATIONS. DEGREE OF HOME
ISOLATION FOUND.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTALS.
Number having separate Bedrooms	25	15	40
Number having separate Beds only	2	2	4
Number having no Isolation	21	8	29
Number in Institutions	9	10	19
Unascertained	5	3	8
Totals	62	38	100

TABLE T5. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS. PERIOD ELAPSING BETWEEN NOTIFICATION
AND DEATH.

PERIOD BETWEEN NOTIFICATION AND DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS :—			
Not notified	2	1	3
One month	4	1	5
1—6 months	7	3	10
6—12 months	4	1	5
12—18 months	2	2	4
18—24 months	—	—	—
2—3 years	4	2	6
3—4 years	1	2	3
4—5 years	2	1	3
5 years and over	7	9	16
Totals	33	22	55
TUBERCULOSIS OTHER THAN PULMONARY :—			
Not notified	1	4	5
One month	3	—	3
1—6 months	—	1	1
Over 6 months	—	—	—
Totals	4	5	9

See also footnote to Table T9.

TABLE T6. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON, 1934-1943.

TOTAL TUBERCULOSIS DEATH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNIUM.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
England and Wales	0.76	0.72	0.69	0.69	0.63	0.64	0.70	0.73	0.66	0.67
Northampton	0.69	0.65	0.64	0.72	0.84	0.44	0.66	0.76	0.59	0.65

TABLE T7. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS. OCCUPATIONAL INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY.

OCCUPATION.	New Cases.	Deaths Registered	OCCUPATION.	New Cases.	Deaths Registered
Shoe Operatives :—			Lorry Driver	2	—
(a) Clicker	1	5	Lorry Driver's Mate	1	—
(b) Laster	4	2	Market Gardener ..	1	—
(c) Finisher	—	4	Motor Mechanic ..	2	1
(d) Roughstuff and Pressman	1	—	Munition Worker ..	6	1
(e) Warehouse and General	1	4	Night Watchman ..	3	1
(f) Female Worker	11	4	Office Cleaner	—	1
	18	19	Policeman	1	1
Aircraft Fitter	1	—	Pork Butcher	—	1
Barman	1	—	Publican	1	1
Canteen Worker ..	1	—	Radio Engineer	1	—
Chemistry Apprentice	1	—	Railway Porter	1	1
Cinematograph Operator	—	1	School Child	2	1
Clerk	4	2	ex-Service	15	—
Companion Help ..	—	1	Shoe Machine En-	1	—
Contractor's Ganger	1	1	gineer	2	—
Dressmaker	1	1	Shop Assistant		
Engineer	2	—	Telephone Linesman	1	—
Errand Boy	1	1	Tool Grinder	—	1
Flax Worker	1	—	Warehouse Woman	—	1
Grocer's Warehouse-			Women's Land Army	2	—
man	1	—	No Occupation	5	2
Hairdresser	1	1	Not Ascertained ..	2	1
Housewife	8	11			
Labourer	4	2			
Laundry Worker ..	1	—			
Leather Dresser ..	3	—			
Locomotive Driver	1	—			
Locomotive Fireman	—	1	Totals	100	55

TABLE T8. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

DISPOSAL OF NOTIFIED CASES.

CLASSIFICATION.	NUMBER.	PER CENT.
Received Residential Treatment at :—		
Welford Road Hospital 49	81	85·3
Creaton Sanatorium 22		
Creaton Sanatorium and Welford Road Hospital 1		
Northampton General Hospital 3		
St. Andrew's Hospital 2		
Other Institutions 4		
Refused Residential Treatment 2	2	2·1
Residential Treatment not considered necessary 7	7	7·4
Too ill for removal 3	3	3·1
Died before receipt of notification 2	2	2·1
Totals 95	95	100·0

TABLE T9. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

TUBERCULOSIS. AGE GROUPS FOR NEW CASES AND DEATHS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	1
5-10 years ..	1	—	3	4	—	—	1	—
10-15 years ..	—	2	5	—	1	—	1	—
15-20 years ..	13	9	3	4	4	—	1	1
20-25 years ..	4	6	1	4	2	6	—	—
25-35 years ..	9	11	1	1	7	4	1	2
35-45 years ..	12	4	—	—	5	5	—	—
45-55 years ..	11	3	—	1	4	4	—	—
55-65 years ..	9	1	—	—	8	3	—	—
65 and upwards	3	1	—	1	2	—	—	1
Totals	62	38	13	18	33	22	4	5

Three (5·5 per cent.) of the fifty-five deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system and five (55·6 per cent.) of the nine deaths from other forms of tuberculosis were of cases not notified. Reference should also be made to Table T5.

See also remarks of Medical Officer of Health on page 32.

APPENDIX II.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER FOR
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE FOR THE YEAR 1943

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I beg to submit herewith my report on the maternity and child welfare work in the Borough for the year 1943.

Your obedient Servant,

M. MARTIN WILLIAMS

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE,
DYCHURCH LANE, NORTHAMPTON.
MAY, 1944.

Staff. The permanent staff of the Department consists of one Assistant Medical Officer, eight health visitors, and two clerks. Their time is wholly devoted to work connected with maternity and child welfare. Miss S. M. Weeks commenced as Superintendent Health Visitor on 1st November.

Infant Mortality. The number of infant deaths was sixty-nine, one more than in 1942. The infant mortality-rate was 39·2 per thousand live births registered, which is below the current rate of 49 for England and Wales (*see* Table M1, page 60) and is the lowest local rate on record.

Premature birth accounted for the greatest number of these infant deaths ; twenty-nine infants died owing to prematurity, compared with twenty-three in 1942. Forty-seven died during the first month of life ; of this number twenty-seven were premature.

The infant deaths are classified by cause in Table M2 (page 60) and in more detail according to cause and age in Table D at the end of this volume.

Notification of Births. The birth-rate for 1943 was 17·9, compared with 15·7 for 1942 and 16·5 for England and Wales.

1,761 live births and fifty-five stillbirths were registered. 2,220 live births and eighty-eight stillbirths were notified, making a total of 2,308 (*see* Table M3, page 60). Table M4 shews the sources of notification.

1,667 births were investigated by the health visitors ; ten of these were non-notified. They also visited twenty-seven other births but no information was available. The remaining births occurred either in larger houses, or the mothers, resident outside the Borough, came into the Town for their confinements and returned home later.

868 babies (including stillborn babies) were born of primiparæ.

Investigation disclosed that eighty-four babies were born prematurely, twenty-five more than in 1942.

In addition to these figures, the health visitors investigated thirty-nine evacuee births which occurred at St. John's Hospital and were afterwards billeted in the Borough, the majority of them in the hostel at 9, Park Avenue and a few in private billets.

Stillbirths. The number of stillbirths notified was eighty-eight, eighteen more than in 1942. Thirty-one of the eighty-eight were County cases and two were evacuees, born and notified in the Borough.

Fifty-three stillbirths were investigated; in two cases no accurate information was available. Twenty-six occurred in primigravida and five women had had more than eight children. In eighteen cases labour was premature and eight were illegitimate.

Causes of stillbirth :—

Maternal	16
Toxæmia	8
Eclampsia	4
Hypertension	1
Family history of stillbirths	1
Cardiac disease	1
Bronchitis	1
Foetal	7
Spina bifida	1
Anencephalic	4
Hydramnios	2
Cause unknown	9
Non-macerated	5
(3 premature)	
Macerated	4
Accidents of labour	21
Failed forceps—craniotomy	1
Born before arrival	2
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	6
Prolapsed cord	3
Extended breech	3
Forceps	4
Precipitate labour	1
Obstructed shoulders	1

Home Visitation.

Visits to Expectant Mothers :—

First Visits	253
Total Visits	505

Visits to Children under One Year of Age :—

First Visits	1,648
Total Visits	5,825

Visits to Children from One to Five Years of Age :—

Total Visits	6,270
--------------------	-------

The health visitors paid 13,403 visits during 1943. This number includes all the visits enumerated above and also extra visits, viz :— to houses where a baby under one year had died, and to all cases of puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum, pneumonia, etc., in women and children.

Ultra-violet Ray Treatment. Ultra-violet ray treatment was continued with the usual exception of the summer months. Fifty-five children under five years of age received 857 treatments. By arrangement with the Education Committee forty-one school children also received 513 treatments. These children were chiefly suffering from rickets and marasmus and most of them benefited from the treatment.

Manfield Orthopædic Hospital. Four beds are maintained, when occupied, at Manfield Hospital. At the beginning of January one patient was under treatment. During the year twelve were admitted either to the hospital or the John Greenwood Shipman Convalescent Home, suffering from general orthopædic conditions. One patient was taken over by the Education Committee on reaching five years of age, seven were discharged, the average length of stay being sixty-seven days, and five cases were still under treatment at the close of the year.

Welfare Centres—Statistics. There was an increase in the number of children under one year of age who attended at the centres for the first time. There was also an increase in their number of attendances and in the attendances of children from one to five years.

Table M5 (page 61) gives the average attendances and consultations at the eleven centres in the Town. The total average attendance of mothers per week was 692, against 550 in 1942 ; of babies and toddlers 761, against 600 in 1942.

The attendances at all centres during the year were :—

(a) By Children under One Year of Age	21,845
(b) By Children between the Ages of One and Five Years	11,298

The attendance of children per session at all centres during 1943 averaged 69. In 1942 the figure was 55.

The number of children who attended at the centres for the first time during the year was :—

(a) Children under One Year of Age	1,250
(b) Children between the Ages of One and Five Years	123

The number of children who were in attendance at the centres at the end of the year was :—

(a) Children under One Year of Age	1,042
(b) Children between the Ages of One and Five Years	1,397

Voluntary Work. The Northampton Maternity and Infant Welfare Voluntary Association reports a satisfactory year's work for 1943, as will be seen from the following report supplied by the Association :—

“ The work of the infant welfare centres has been carried on through-

out the year though one or two centres are still affected by adverse circumstances ; at most, the attendance records have been satisfactory. The attendances at Broadmead have been so large as to make the Centre almost unworkable and for this Centre, therefore, an additional Friday session has been arranged. Doddridge Memorial Centre now meets at St. Giles' Street and, to judge by the attendance, the improved conditions have compensated for the longer distances involved. In all the centres the leaders and helpers have worked with steady enthusiasm and put thought and energy into solving the problems of wartime.

The speaker at the Annual Meeting in April was Dr. Mary T. Day, late Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Northampton. The attendance was disappointing, but those present listened with appreciation to an address by Dr. Day on " The First Year of Life."

In March the Voluntary Association, under the direction of Dr. M. Martin Williams and with the co-operation of the health visitors, organised a three-day Mothercraft Exhibition in the St. Giles' Street building. The Exhibition, divided into three age-groups, consisted of stalls and posters illustrating food, clothing, toys, activities, etc., for each age-group. By the kindness of Mr. F. A. Husbands a dental exhibit was included. The Exhibition was opened by Dr. Leslie G. Housden, Chairman of the Mothercraft Committee of the National Association of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and on the following days lectures were given by Mr. Husbands on " The Care of Teeth " and by Dr. M. Martin Williams on " Immunisation."

No mothercraft competitions were held this year : in their place " make and mend " classes were arranged at the centres. Lectures, demonstrations, and practical assistance were given by Miss Soutar (College of Technology) and Miss Lever (Women's Voluntary Services). The classes, which were most successful, served the double purpose of helping with " ooupn " difficulties and of ensuring the best use of garments and material already in use.

Expectant mothers arrive every week from London and, as in previous years, the Association has assisted with their reception, and has also its representatives engaged in various forms of war work.

The war savings groups were most successful. Each centre was represented and the amount collected, £1,224, almost doubled the result of 1942.

Northampton mothers obtained excellent results in the National Parentcraft Competitions. The silver cup for second place in all England was awarded to Broadmead Centre and the medal for third place to Abington Avenue. St. Giles' Street (Wednesday) and Far Cotton Centres also entered and obtained certificates and honours.

The Committee of the Association wishes again to express its pleasure and satisfaction in working under the guidance of Dr. M. Martin Williams and to thank her for her constant interest and co-operation."

Maternity Homes. There are five nursing homes in the Town, three of which may admit maternity cases only. One (St. Matthew's Nursing Home) is registered for maternity, medical, and surgical cases.

Thirty-three visits of inspection were paid to the nursing homes by the Assistant Medical Officer.

The Local Authority maintains no maternity home. An arrangement is in operation whereby expectant mothers, who are abnormal cases and are found to require institutional treatment at the time of confinement, are treated in the Barratt Maternity Home. 136 cases (including two evacuees) were admitted during 1943 and one was confined at St. John's Hospital. Normal and necessitous cases go to St. Edmund's Hospital. 287 women were admitted during 1943 and, in addition, six cases were confined at St. John's Hospital when St. Edmund's Hospital was full.

Midwives. Thirty-nine midwives notified their intention to practise. The Queen's Institute of District Nursing employed twelve of these at different times and five were attached to St. Edmund's Hospital. The Inspector of Midwives paid fifteen visits to midwives practising independently for the purposes of inspection. She also paid four visits of inspection to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. Medical aid was summoned by a midwife under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, on 230 occasions.

The Queen's nurses attended 605 cases as maternity nurses or midwives during 1943.

Ante-natal Work. The Council provides and maintains one ante-natal clinic (three sessions per week) at St. Giles' Street Centre. In addition an ante-natal clinic is held at the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. 119 sessions were held at St. Giles' Street Clinic and were attended by 683 expectant mothers (including ninety-one still attending from 1942), who made 2,499 attendances.

Thirty-six cases were referred to the Consultant Obstetrician, twelve of whom were admitted to Barratt Maternity Home.

At the Queen's Institute of District Nursing 987 attendances were made by 403 expectant mothers in ninety-four sessions.

403 patients who attended the Borough clinic (1942-43) had babies born in 1943. There was no maternal death during 1943 amongst mothers attending this clinic.

Doctors and midwives usually send their patients to the ante-natal clinic by appointment and in each case a report is forwarded to the doctor or midwife concerned.

In cases of sudden emergency the Consultant Obstetrician may be called in by a local practitioner; eleven cases in this category were dealt with during 1943.

Post-natal Work. A post-natal clinic is held once a week. There were forty-two sessions during 1943 and 133 women (including six still attending from 1942) made 209 attendances.

A post-natal clinic is also held at the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. There were fourteen sessions during 1943 attended by 176 women, each making one attendance.

Doctors' Bills. In certain circumstances the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee undertakes the payment of doctors' and midwives' bills. A revised scale was adopted in April, 1942, fixing the proportion to be recovered from patients according to their means. Instalments and any outstanding debts in connection with these bills are collected by a member of the staff of the Borough Treasurer's Department.

Dental Treatment. As in previous years, children under school age and pregnant and nursing mothers may be treated by the School Dental Officer. Three sessions each week are set apart for this. Payment for treatment is made to the Dental Clinic direct, or later by instalments at the Borough Treasurer's Department.

Bills amounting to just under £176 were sent to thirty-seven patients. Just over £117 was collected on these accounts and those outstanding from previous years. Nearly £13 was collected in small fees for which no bills were issued. Table M6 (page 62) shews the numbers dealt with and the form of treatment.

The following is extracted from the Dental Officer's report :—

“ There was an increase of 64 patients attending the Clinic, 38 more being treated and 53 more having their treatment completed. The attendances numbered 200 more. The decrease of 171 extractions was due in the main to the better condition of the children's teeth. Three more fillings and 18 more dentures were inserted for the mothers, whilst 48 more teeth were painted with silver nitrate for the children. There was a very large increase in scaling and gum treatment carried out for the mothers, the necessity for this being due to war conditions. Other miscellaneous operations shewed a corresponding increase.

The following tables bear close examination :—

		EXTRACTIONS.	FILLINGS.	DENTURES.
Average treatment for				
mothers	1933-1940	135	32	15
Treatment for mothers	1941	330	43	25
Treatment for mothers	1942	739	80	47
Treatment for mothers	1943	703	83	66
		EXTRACTIONS. SILVER NITRATE.		
Average treatment for				
children	1933-1940		404	492
Treatment for children	1941		338	584
Treatment for children	1942		294	734
Treatment for children	1943		159	782

As the result of the increased amount of dental treatment carried out under the infant welfare scheme it has been found necessary to increase the dental staff by asking the Assistant School Dental Officer to perform one session a week in addition to the two sessions already given by the School Dental Officer.”

Milk. The National Milk Scheme is conducted by the Milk Officer at the Food Office.

Dried milk is sold at St. Giles' Street Centre : the following tabulation shews the number of pounds sold :—

" Cow and Gate " full cream	11,674
" Cow and Gate " humanised and half cream	2,972
" Trufood "	2,039

16,718 pounds of dried milk were also sold at certain of the other welfare centres, through the Voluntary Association.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Eighty-seven cases of puerperal pyrexia, including forty-four non-residents, were notified. Eighty were treated at Northampton General Hospital, two at St. Edmund's Hospital, and five at home.

Maternal Deaths. Six maternal deaths occurred amongst local women in 1943. Three of them occurred in the early months of pregnancy. Two were due to septic abortion followed by peritonitis. One of these women denied the possibility of pregnancy and the other admitted that the abortion was self-procured. The third case was due to a hydatidiform mole complicated by gas gangrene. Three women died from puerperal sepsis :—one from puerperal septicaemia, one from cardiac failure following eclampsia, and one from uræmia and puerperal sepsis following post-partum hæmorrhage.

Table M7 (page 62) gives maternal mortality figures for England and Wales and Northampton for the last ten years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Two cases of ophthalmia were notified. Both were mild cases and recovered without any impairment of vision.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis. Four babies under the age of two years died from diarrhœa and enteritis.

Child Life Protection. The Maternity and Child Welfare Department administers Sections 206 to 220 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to foster-children. These children are supervised until they reach the age of nine years. The number of persons receiving children for reward on the register at the end of the year was thirty-five ; these had charge of sixty-two children. It was not necessary to obtain any legal order or to take any proceedings under the Act during 1943.

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, came into force on 1st June, 1943. Three persons gave notice under Section 7 (3) during the remainder of the year.

Evacuation Scheme. Regular parties of expectant mothers arrived in Northampton and were received at St. Giles' Street Centre. During the year 782 arrived, all of whom were for confinement at St. John's Hospital. Ante-natal care was provided at the County Health Department, and women who remained in the Town after their confinement attended the Borough infant welfare centres.

There are now four ante-natal hostels in the Borough, the last being opened in August. Two have accommodation for eighteen women each, one fifteen, and one thirteen. During the year they admitted 173, 175

63, and 134 mothers. The post-natal hostel provides accommodation for fourteen mothers and babies. Thirty-one only were admitted during the year. In view of this small number, 127 expectant mothers were also accommodated at this hostel. Regular visits were paid to these hostels by the Assistant Medical Officer.

Wartime Nurseries. There are five nurseries in the following areas :—Bush Hill, Victoria Park, Kingsthorpe Park, Wallace Road (Kingsley), and Delapre. These have accommodation for 200 children under five years of age whose mothers are engaged on war work or work of national importance.

On 31st December there were 195 children attending these nurseries, sixty of whom were under two years of age.

254 visits were paid to the nurseries by the Assistant Medical Officer and, in addition, all children were medically inspected before admission.

Thirteen visits were also paid to the Dallington Nursery Home.

Daily Guardians Scheme. This scheme, whereby children under five years of age are cared for by registered daily guardians while their mothers are engaged on war work or work of national importance, is supervised by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour.

At the end of the year fifty-seven women had charge of fifty-nine children.

Diphtheria Immunisation. 1,222 children completed the full course during the year. Of this number 126 were attending the wartime nurseries. Two members of the wartime nursery staff also completed the course. It was estimated that by the end of 1943 forty-five per cent. of children under five years of age in the Borough had been immunised.

Clothes Rationing. From January to 24th July, 1,046 expectant mothers made application for supplementary clothing coupons. Since July these coupons have been issued from the Food Office.

Home Help Scheme. A home help scheme was started in March. Two women were appointed and the first case was attended in May. Thirteen cases were attended during the remainder of the year.

This scheme has not been satisfactory as the right type of woman has not been available. In all, five women were appointed but, with one exception, they have resigned. This work is exacting, requiring tact and sympathy as well as competence in household duties and management.

TABLE M1. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON, 1934-1943.
INFANT MORTALITY IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
England and Wales	59	57	59	58	53	50	55	59	49	49
Northampton	45.8	50.2	39.9	47.6	46.6	41.7	49.0	52.9	42.6	39.2

TABLE M2. NORTHAMPTON, 1939-1943.
INFANT MORTALITY. CAUSES OF DEATH*.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	2	6	7	5	2
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	7	23	20	10	10
Congenital Malformations	9	5	15	12	6
Convulsions	2	2	2	1	2
Diarrhoea, Enteritis, and Gastritis	2	2	—	3	4
Measles	—	2	1	—	—
Premature Birth	20	13	22	23	29
Tuberculous Diseases	—	2	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	1	2	—	—
All Other Causes	9	13	22	14	16
TOTAL DEATHS	52	69	91	68	69
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	1247†	1408†	1720†	1597	1761
INFANT MORTALITY	41.7	49.0	52.9	42.6	39.2

*See also Table D at end of Report.

†These figures were supplied by the Registrar-General for the special purpose of calculating infant and maternal mortality.

TABLE M3. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS REGISTERED AND NOTIFIED.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTALS.
Number of Live Births Registered	903	858	1761
Number of Stillbirths Registered	27	28	55
Total Number of Births Notified	1185	1123	2308
Number of Live Births Notified	1139	1081	2220
Number of Stillbirths Notified	46	42	88

TABLE M4. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS. SOURCES OF NOTIFICATION.

	NUMBER.	PER CENT.
Medical Practitioners	119*	5.2
Certified Midwives	2179	94.4
Parents and Others	10	0.4
Totals	2308	100.0

*Includes 96 also notified by Midwives.

TABLE M5. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE CENTRES. STATISTICS.

CENTRE.	DAY OF MEETING.	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER WEEK.				Average Number seen by Doctor per Session.
		Mothers (incl. Expectant Mothers).	Babies.	Toddlers.	Total Babies and Toddlers.	
Abington Avenue ..	Thursday ..	63	45	26	71	17
Broadmead	Monday	84	62	33	95	15
Broadmead	Friday	45	36	15	51	15
Doddridge Memorial	Tuesday	64	53	18	71	16
Far Cotton	Monday	51	32	20	52	19
Kingsley Park	Monday	53	38	20	58	18
Kingsthorpe	Tuesday	65	59	13	72	22
St. Edmund's	Friday	95	65	37	102	19
St. Giles' Street ..	Wednesday ..	52	33	25	58	18
St. Giles' Street ..	Thursday ..	42	29	19	48	20
St. Sepulchre's	Wednesday ..	78	50	33	83	21
	Totals	692	502	259	761	200

TABLE M6. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

SUMMARY OF DENTAL OPERATIONS.

NATURE OF OPERATION, ETC.	MOTHERS.	CHILDREN.	TOTALS.
Patients seen	181	191	372
Patients treated	155	150	305
Number of attendances	739	363	1102
Teeth extracted	703	159	862
Administrations of local anæsthetic	229	99	328
Fillings	83	—	83
Teeth treated with nitrate of silver	4	782	786
Dressings	26	2	28
Scalings and cleanings	106	7	113
Repairs	4	—	4
Dentures	62	—	62
Completed	75	136	211
Other operations	87	—	87

TABLE M7. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON, 1934-1943.

MATERNAL MORTALITY* IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNIOUM.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
England and Wales ..	4.41	3.93	3.65	3.11	2.97	2.82	2.61	2.77	2.47	2.29
Northampton	5.73	4.17	3.20	1.60	—	—	2.06	1.13	4.27	3.30

*Calculated per 1,000 total (live and still) births registered and including deaths from abortion.

See also Section VII. of Medical Officer of Health's report (pages 34 to 38).

APPENDIX III.

STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE 1. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON, 1934-1943.
BIRTH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
England and Wales ..	14.8	14.7	14.8	14.9	15.1	15.0	14.6	14.2	15.8	16.5
Northampton	12.2	11.9	12.5	12.4	12.5	12.3	11.9	11.8	15.7	17.9

TABLE 2. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON, 1934-1943.
DEATH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
England and Wales ..	11.8	11.7	12.1	12.4	11.6	12.1	14.3	12.9	11.6	12.1
Northampton	11.4	10.9	12.6	12.6	11.1	11.6	13.9	12.8	11.5	13.1

TABLE 3. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON, 1934-1943.
CANCER DEATH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
England and Wales ..	1.56	1.59	1.63	1.63	1.67	1.67	1.72	1.78	1.83	1.90
Northampton	1.85	1.66	1.74	1.86	1.63	1.34	1.61	1.78	1.83	2.04

TABLE 4. NORTHAMPTON, 1943. METEOROLOGICAL DATA.

MONTH.	RAINFALL.				TEMPERATURE.						DIRECTION OF WIND.				BRIGHT SUNSHINE.	
	Total inches.	Greatest in 24 hours.		Days on which 0.01 in. or more fell.	Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.		No. of Nights at or below 32 deg. F.	SW. Quadrant including W. Days.	SE. Quadrant including S. Days.	NE. Quadrant including E. Days.	NW. Quadrant including N. Days.	Hrs.	Mins.
		Depth.	Date.			Deg.	Date.	Deg.	Date.							
January ..	3.60	0.35	5	26	41.22	54.5	28	26.0	4	9	10	12	2	7	34	50
February	1.08	0.30	8	11	40.83	54.5	12-14	29.5	8	2	16	0	12	0	72	25
March	0.90	0.40	24	7	43.12	59.0	30	28.0	15	9	7	3	10	11	119	40
April	0.82	0.20	23	15	53.18	74.0	16	35.0	8	0	11	3	0	16	117	5
May	1.89	0.26	24	15	55.04	80.0	14	36.0	11	0	4	5	8	14	248	50
June	1.81	0.41	7	13	60.81	76.5	{ 11 29	45.5	17	0	16	1	3	10	166	30
July	0.80	0.14	15	10	62.46	89.0	31	48.0	15	0	12	3	9	7	—	—
August ..	1.70	0.40	20	17	65.08	81.0	17	46.5	12	0	17	5	0	9	—	—
September	1.67	0.35	12	13	57.35	71.0	14	38.0	{ 22 27	0	11	6	0	13	—	—
October ..	2.03	0.38	22	14	50.98	64.0	1	34.0	8	0	8	16	1	6	—	—
November	1.20	0.20	14	19	42.86	58.0	1-2	30.0	17	6	6	4	3	17	—	—
December	0.99	0.34	18	15	38.91	52.0	26	27.0	14-15	13	10*	4	10	7	—	—
Year 1943	18.49	0.41	June 7	175	50.99	89.0	July 31	26.0	Jan. 4	39	128*	62	58	117	†	†

*Includes one "calm" day in December.
†Records not available after June: see remarks on page 11.

TABLE 5. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE WORK OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

	Number of Inspections, etc.	No. at which Nuisances, Defects, etc., were Found.
1.—Total Number of Inspections and Visits	17907	
2.—Number of Premises at which Nuisances were Found		874
3.—Total Number of Houses Inspected	1513	778
4.—Number of these Houses Repaired		617
5.—Number of these Houses Cleansed and Whitewashed		404
6.—Number of Houses Cleansed after Certificate of M.O.H. (Secs. 83 and 167, P.H.A. 1936)		0
7.—Number of First Visits made in consequence of Complaints by Residents	586	473
8.—Notices Served	718	
9.—Drains :—		
Tested by Smoke Test	24	21
Tested by Volatile Test	30	6
Tested by Water Test	1	1
Exposed under Sec. 48, P.H.A. 1936	0	0
Drains reported choked		145
Drains reconstructed		5
Drains repaired		85
Bath, lavatory, or sink waste pipes dis- connected from drains		0
New pans fixed to closets		45
Indoor soil pipes abolished		0
Closets supplied with flushing apparatus		0
10.—Contraventions of Byelaws :—		
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance		4
Animals kept in contravention of Byelaws ..		1
Accumulations of manure, etc., at :—		
(a) Houses		8
(b) Other premises		1
Other contraventions		0
11.—Other Nuisances :—		
Overcrowding in houses		6
Yard pavings re-laid or repaired		38
Spoutings repaired or renewed		81
New slop sinks fixed		4
Houses supplied with town water		0
Chimney observations	9	1
Miscellaneous nuisances		253

Continued on next page.

TABLE 5.—*continued.*

	Number of Inspections, etc.	No. at which Nuisances, Defects, etc., were Found.
12.—Factories Act—Inspections of:—		
Factories with mechanical power	871	33
Factories without mechanical power	273	6
Other premises	105	10
Outworkers' premises	89	2
13.—Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops:—		
Number of Inspections	517	8
Number of New Registrations	0	
14.—Bakehouses—Number of Inspections	197	19
15.—Slaughterhouses:—		
Number of Inspections	1466	22
16.—Other Premises where Food is Manufactured, Stored, or Exposed for Sale—Number of Inspections	2305	29
17.—Food and Drugs Act—Number of Samples sent to Public Analyst	285	13
18.—Infectious Diseases—Visits to Infected Houses:—		
(a) First visits for investigation	286	
(b) Weekly visits to secure isolation	115	
(c) Visits to control disinfection	228	
19.—Number of Visits for Inspection of:—		
(a) Schools	32	3
(b) Public Lavatories	102	1
(c) Van-dwellers	3	1
(d) Cinemas, etc.	20	4
(e) Restaurant Kitchens, Teashops, etc.	40	3
(f) Shops	10	3
(g) Offensive Trades	18	0
(h) Offices, Workplaces, etc.	745	2
20.—Houses Inspected under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932:—		
Number of Houses Inspected	853	477
Defective Houses Repaired		403
Houses Cleansed and Whitewashed		288
21.—Houses Unfit for Human Habitation reported under Housing Act, 1936:—		
(a) Section 9	0	0
(b) Section 11	1	1
(c) Section 12	0	0
(d) Section 25	0	0

TABLE 6. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

RECONSTRUCTION OF DRAINS

SITUATION OF PREMISES.	NO. OF HOUSES.
Grafton Street, 101	1
Gregory Street, 34, 36, 38	3
Lawrence Street, 29	1
Total	5

TABLE 7. NORTHAMPTON, 1938-1943.

HOUSING ACT, 1936. HOUSES REPRESENTED DURING 1943, ETC.

SUBSEQUENT ACTION AND CONDITION AT THE END OF 1943.

HOUSES.	DATE OF		REMARKS.
	Representations.	Demolition Orders.	
Bath Street, 38, 40, 42, 44, and 46	11-3-42	—	No. 40 occupied ; remainder vacant.
King Street, 12	13-1-43	—	Occupied.
Scarletwell Street, 8	12-4-39	—	Occupied.
Scarletwell Street, 67	16-9-42	—	Occupied.
Wellingborough Road, Abington Cottages, 9, 10, 11, and 12	13-4-38	—	Nos. 9, 10, and 12 used by Home Guard ; No. 11 used as store.

TABLE 8. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1.—*Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors for purposes of provisions as to health.*

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	INSPEC- TIONS.	WRITTEN NOTICES.	OCCUPIERS PROSE- CUTED.
Factories with mechanical power ..	871	33	—
Factories without mechanical power	273	6	—
Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and en- gineering construction but not in- cluding outworkers' premises) ..	105	10	—
Totals	1249	49	—

2.—*Defects found.*

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			No. OF DEFECTS IN RESPECT OF WHICH PROSECU- TIONS WERE IN- STITUTED.
	FOUND.	REMEDIED	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR	
Want of cleanliness (s. 1)	26	21	—	—
Overcrowding (s. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (s. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (s. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (s. 6)	2	2	—	—
Sanitary conveniences {	insufficient	1	—	—
	unsuitable or			
	defective	84	64	—
	not separate for			
(s. 7)	sexes	—	—	—
Other offences	10	10	—	—
Totals	123	97	—	—

Continued on next page.

TABLE 8.—*continued.*3.—*Outwork in unwholesome premises (s. 111).*

NATURE OF WORK.	INSTANCES.	NOTICES SERVED.	PROSE- CUTIONS.
—	—	—	—

TABLE 9. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
UN SOUND FOOD VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED.

NATURE OF FOOD.	WEIGHT.			
	TONS.	CWT.	QR.	LB.
Beef, home killed	70	3	0	7
Beef, imported	—	6	0	16
Mutton, home killed	3	1	3	7
Offal, home killed	37	6	2	2
Pork, home killed	1	11	2	4
Veal, home killed	—	12	1	7
Bacon	—	10	3	24
Bread, flour, cornflour, etc.	2	16	3	0
Cheese	—	1	1	23
Chocolate and confectionery	—	1	3	2
Cooked meat and canned meat	2	9	2	13
Fish, shell-fish, and fish roll	4	16	0	25
Fruit	1	6	1	17
Margarine	—	—	—	9
Meat extract	—	1	1	20
Preserves	1	8	1	26
Rice	—	—	1	19
Sausages	—	3	2	8
Vegetables	1	19	3	24
Total	128	18	2	1

Also 6,593 tins and jars of food, together with 72½ gallons apple pulp, 1,092 eggs, 212 meat pies, 1,073 fish cakes, 1,614 crumpets, 32 lobsters, 117 rabbits, and 3 chickens.

There were 2,774 surrenders in connection with the above unsound food. There was also one seizure; this referred to 37 lb. 12 oz. of tomatoes unfit for human consumption; the vendor was fined £5.

TABLE 10. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	CATTLE, EX- CLUDING COWS.	COWS.	CALVES.	SHEEP AND LAMBS.	PIGS.
Number killed	6,861		9,129	39,118	1,222
Number inspected	6,861		9,129	39,118	1,156
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis :—</i> Whole carcasses con- demned	12	57	15	194	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2,130		27	498	49
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affect- ed with disease other than tuberculosis ..	32·1		0·5	1·8	5·1
<i>Tuberculosis only :—</i> Whole carcasses con- demned	47	214	5	0	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,546		2	0	28
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	26·3		0·1	0·0	3·2

TABLE 11. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
BOROUGH INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, HARBOROUGH ROAD.
CASES UNDER TREATMENT.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Enterica	Erysip- elas.	Others.	Totals.
Remaining at end of 1942 ..	12	4	—	1	—	17
Admitted during 1943	119	53	1	1	13*	187
Discharged during 1943	113	48	1	2	13	177
Died during 1943	1	1	—	—	—	2
Remaining at end of 1943 ..	17	8	—	—	—	25

*Includes the following cases :—measles 5, dysentery 3, mumps 3, and rubella 2.

TABLE 12. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.

FOOD AND DRUGS. SAMPLES TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS.

NATURE OF SAMPLE.	FORMAL SAMPLES.		INFORMAL SAMPLES.	
	TOTAL NUMBER.	NO. NOT GENUINE.	TOTAL NUMBER.	NO. NOT GENUINE.
Baking powder	2	—	3	—
Butter	2	—	—	—
Cocoa, etc.	3	—	1	—
Coffee	5	—	—	—
Egg substitute	—	—	1	—
Fish pastes, etc.	1	—	10	—
Flour, etc.	7	—	7	—
Fruit juice	1	—	—	—
Gelatine	1	—	2	2
Lard	2	—	—	—
Malted soya cream	1	—	—	—
Meat extract, etc.	1	—	3	—
Milk	139	8	2	2
Milk, sterilised	36	—	—	—
Mustard, etc.	—	—	5	—
Pearl barley	—	—	1	—
Pepper	1	—	—	—
Potted meat, etc.	2	—	4	—
Sauces, spices, soups, etc.	—	—	9	—
Sausages	5	—	—	—
Semolina	1	—	2	—
Sundry drugs, etc.	—	—	15	—
Vinegar	9	—	1	1
Totals	219*	8	66*	5

* A total of 285 samples, 13 of which (4·6 per cent.) were found not to be genuine.

TABLE 13. NORTHAMPTON, 1943.
CLINICAL BACTERIOLOGY. NUMBER OF SUSPECTED CASES IN WHICH EXAMINATION WAS
MADE AND THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF THE REPORTS RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THESE.

DIPHTHERIA— Throat and Nose Secretions.	TYPHOID, DYSENTERY, ETC.— Dreyer's Tests, etc.			TUBERCULOSIS— Sputum, Urine, etc.			OTHER CONDITIONS.			TOTALS.									
	No. of Suspected Cases.	Reports received.			No. of Suspected Cases.	Reports received.			No. of Suspected Cases.	Reports received.									
		Positive.	Negative.	Total.		Positive.	Negative.	Total.		Positive.	Negative.	Total.							
434	154	609	763	71	81	135	216	672	149	729	878	7	7	7	14	1184	391	1480	1871

The above Table does not take into account the reports made in connection with the venereal diseases scheme.

(N.B.—Table A is not being printed this year.)

TABLE B.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON.

Cases of Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1943.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD.											Cases Admitted to Borough Hospitals.	Total Deaths (see Table C).	
	ALL AGES.	AGES (IN YEARS).												Castle.	Delapre.	Kingsley.	Kingsthorpe.	St. Crispin's.	St. Edmund's.	St. George's.	St. James'.	St. Michael's.	South.	Spencer.			Weston.
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-														
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1*	—	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	
Diphtheria	47	—	2	1	2	1	11	13	9	5	2	1	—	—	—	2	5	2	—	4	3	—	2	21	8	44†	1
Dysentery	26	—	10	2	3	5	1	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	2	15	—	1	1	1	3†	1
Enterica	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1†	—
Erysipelas	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	11	8	5	1	3	—	1	—	2	6	2	1	3	2	1†	—
Measles	537	18	53	66	69	70	229	17	5	8	—	2	—	11	147	94	38	15	14	34	48	11	24	16	85	2†	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	145	4	1	4	3	6	17	11	6	17	10	34	32	13	6	10	16	9	5	17	18	13	5	16	17	2‡	58
Puerperal Pyrexia	87	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	65	19	—	—	2	5	3	2	4	3	5	7	4	44	5	3	2‡	4
Scarlet Fever	176	—	3	5	13	21	90	25	8	7	3	1	—	10	32	22	17	9	7	14	14	7	8	15	21	111†	1
Whooping Cough	128	14	11	17	14	26	44	1	—	—	1	—	—	10	33	16	10	8	3	12	6	7	7	8	8	—	—
Tuberculosis :— Respiratory	95	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	22	29	16	22	2	14	9	7	10	8	7	4	6	4	6	14	6	61§	55
Other Forms	26	—	1	—	—	1	7	4	5	5	—	1	2	1	5	3	5	1	3	1	5	—	—	1	1	4¶	9
Totals	1305	38	82	95	106	131	400	74	61	140	60	73	45	67	238	160	110	59	42	97	128	48	102	101	153	232	130

*Admitted to Manfield Orthopædic Hospital.

†Admitted to Harborough Road Hospital.

‡Admitted to St. Edmund's Hospital.

||Sixteen of these were from influenzal pneumonia.

§Forty-five to Welford Road Hospital and sixteen to Creaton Sanatorium.

¶Three to Manfield Hospital and one to Creaton Sanatorium.

The above figures include non-civilian cases but take no account of corrections in diagnosis. (See Section VI. of this Report for further information).

No notifications were received of other notifiable diseases not specified in the Table above (e.g., smallpox).

INSTITUTIONS :—(1) Harborough Road Infectious Diseases Hospital (85 beds, allowing 144 sq. ft. per bed) ;
(2) Smallpox Hospital, Mere Way (48 beds, allowing 144 sq. ft. per bed) ;
(3) Welford Road Tuberculosis Hospital (32 beds) ;
(4) St. Edmund's Hospital (Public Assistance Institution) (180 beds) ;
(5) Creaton Sanatorium, Northampton (10 beds reserved for Northampton County Borough, increased to 15 on 1st January, 1944) ;
(6) Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, Northampton (20 beds available for surgical tuberculosis cases).

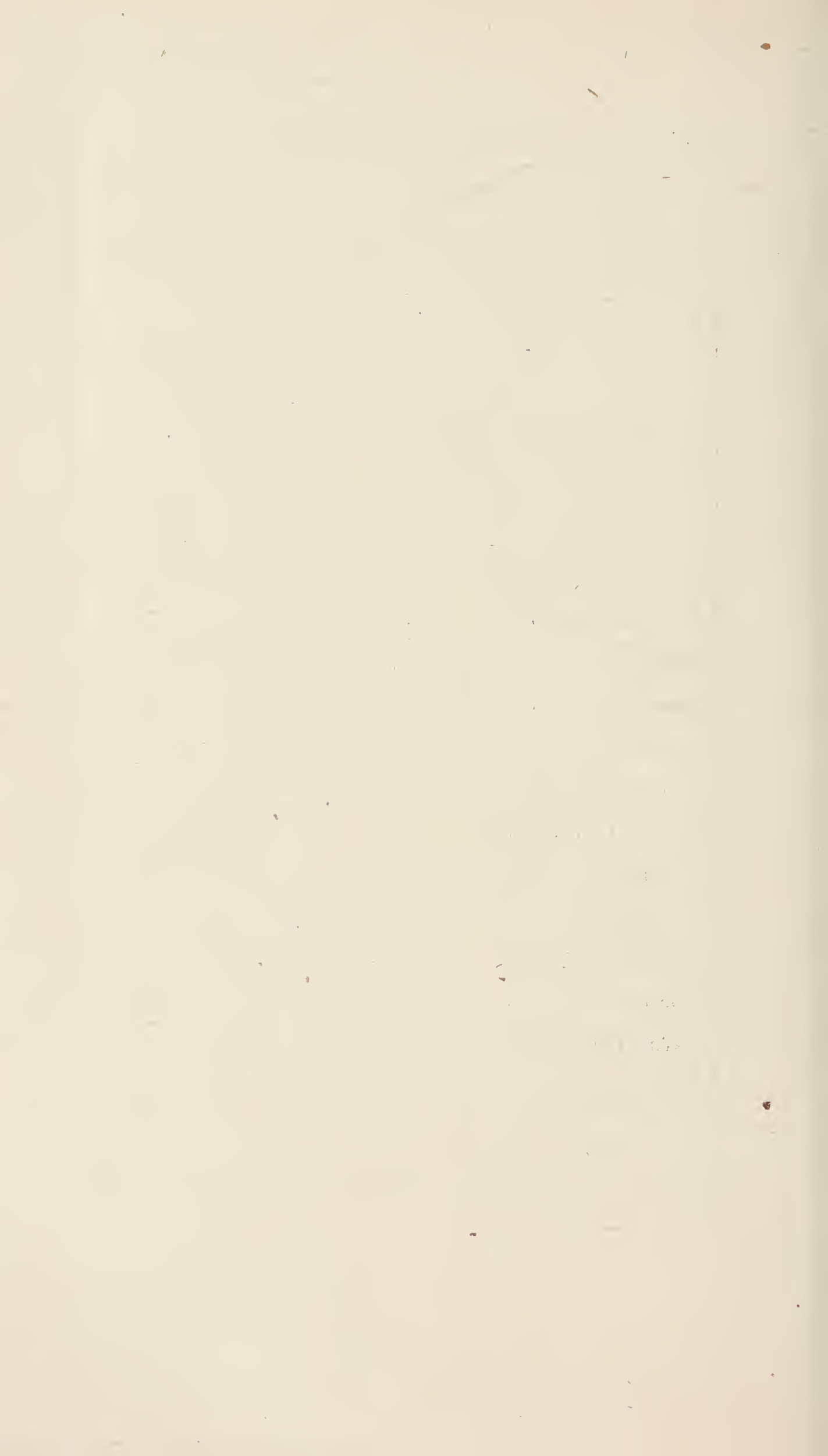


TABLE C.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON.

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1943.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES (IN YEARS) OF " RESIDENTS "													Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Institutions in the District.	
				ALL AGES.			0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-		75-
				Total.	M.	F.												
ALL CAUSES	Certified	1272	607	665	69	5	4	16	24	36	64	97	201	314	442	843		
	Uncertified	18	14	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	5	6	—		
*1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
3.	Scarlet fever	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
4.	Whooping cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
5.	Diphtheria	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	55	33	22	—	—	—	1	12	11	10	8	11	2	—	3		
*7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	9	4	5	—	—	1	2	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	15		
8.	Syphilitic disease	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3		
*9.	Influenza	32	8	24	1	1	—	1	1	—	3	3	6	7	9	11		
10.	Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
12.	Acute infectious encephalitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		
13M.	Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus (males only)	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	3	10		
13F.	Cancer of uterus	14	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	5	2	—	4		
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	36	14	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	16	7	16		
15.	Cancer of breast	24	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	9	7	4	7		
16.	Cancer of all other sites	115	66	49	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	14	25	33	31	79		
17.	Diabetes	16	5	11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	6	5	18		
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	112	55	57	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	24	43	36	61		
19.	Heart disease	435	194	241	—	—	1	1	—	3	10	25	41	116	238	194		
*20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system	17	9	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	8	13		
21.	Bronchitis	77	40	37	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	19	10	40	20		
*22.	Pneumonia	42	25	17	8	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	5	12	12	43		
23.	Other respiratory diseases	20	15	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	2	7	2	21		
24.	Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	2	1	14		
25.	Diarrhœa (under two years of age)	4	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5		
26.	Appendicitis	3	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	10		
27.	Other digestive diseases	24	8	16	—	1	1	1	—	2	1	5	6	4	3	38		
28.	Nephritis	35	21	14	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	4	7	9	12	21		
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	5		
30.	Other maternal causes	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	5		
31.	Premature birth	29	15	14	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35		
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	21	12	9	17	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	29		
33.	Suicide	14	3	11	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	2	4	1	4		
34.	Road traffic accidents	8	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	2	18		
35.	Other violent causes	19	10	9	3	—	—	2	3	1	—	2	2	3	3	19		
*36.	All other causes	96	50	46	4	—	—	3	2	6	7	8	14	21	31	117		
Totals		1290	621	669	69	5	4	16	24	36	64	100	205	319	448	843		
*Sub-entries included in above figures	1 (a) Paratyphoid fevers ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	7 (a) Tuberculous meningitis	4	2	2	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	8		
	9 (a) Influenzal pneumonia	16	2	14	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	3	4	5	7		
	20 (a) Arterio-sclerôsis	12	5	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	8	8		
	22 (a) Broncho-pneumonia	21	6	15	5	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	5	7	21		
	36 (a) Rheumatic fever	4	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1		
	(b) Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4		
	(c) Senility	14	1	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	12	10		
(d) Mumps	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1			
(e) Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—			

NETT DEATHS REGISTERED.

M.

F.

TOTALS.

DEATH-RATES.

First Quarter	173	190	363	..	14.8
Second Quarter	132	157	289	..	11.8
Third Quarter	116	122	238	..	9.7
Fourth Quarter	200	200	400	..	16.3
Totals (52 weeks)	621	669	1290	..	13.1

TABLE D.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1943.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1 week and under 2 weeks.	2 weeks and under 3 weeks.	3 weeks and under 4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES	{ Certified Uncertified	40 —	3 —	1 —	3 —	47 —	10 —	5 —	4 —	3 —	69 —
1.	{ Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	{ Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	{ Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	{ Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	{ Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	{ Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	{ Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	{ Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	{ Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	{ Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	{ Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	{ Convulsions	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
13.	{ Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14.	{ Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
15.	{ Pneumonia (all forms)	1	1	1	1	4	2	1	—	1	8
16.	{ Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	{ Enteritis	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	4
18.	{ Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	{ Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	{ Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	{ Suffocation, overlaying	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
22.	{ Injury at Birth	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
23.	{ Atelectasis	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
24.	{ Congenital Malformations	2	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	6
25.	{ Premature Birth	25	2	—	—	27	2	—	—	—	29
26.	{ Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
27.	{ Other Causes	4	—	—	1	5	2	—	1	2	10
Totals		40	3	1	3	47	10	5	4	3	69

		Live Births Registered.					Nett Deaths Registered.					Infant Death-rates.		
		M.	F.	Total.			M.	F.	Total.			M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ..	..	839	793	1632	..	..	36	27	63	..	..	42.9	34.0	38.6
Illegitimate ..	..	64	65	129	..	..	3	3	6	..	..	46.9	46.2	46.5
Totals ..	..	903	858	1761	..	..	39	30	69	..	..	43.2	35.0	39.2



